THE

# EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

OR

# *LITERARY MISCELLANY*,

FOR *DECEMBER* 1800.

With a View of the LOWER FALL of FOYERS, in the County of *Inverneſs*:

Situated a little more than half way betwixt *Inverneſs* and *Fort Auguſtus*, and a ſhort way from *Lochneſs*, on the South ſide.

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State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen in inches and decimals, from November 25. to Dec. 25, 1800, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

| 1800. Nov. | Barom. | Thermom. M | Thermom. N. | Rain. In. Pts. | Weather. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | 28.94 | 35 | 37 | 0.2755 | Rain |
| 26 | 29. | 32 | 37 | —— | Cloudy |
| 27 | 29.35 | 30 | 38 | —— | Ditto |
| 28 | 29.64 | 29 | 34 | —— | Ditto |
| 29 | 29.56 | 35 | 40 | —— | Ditto |
| 30 | 29.5 | 39 | 45 | —— | Ditto |
| Dec. 1 | 29.4 | 47 | 40 | 0.08 | Rain |
| 2 | 29.151 | 35 | 37 | 0.01 | Showers |
| 3 | 29.03 | 33 | 38 | —— | Clear |
| 4 | 28.09 | 29 | 34 | —— | Ditto |
| 5 | 29.061 | 27 | 36 | —— | Cloudy |
| 6 | 29.145 | 37 | 39 | 0.4511 | Rain |
| 7 | 29.345 | 34 | 38 | 0.04 | Ditto |
| 8 | 29.351 | 29 | 34 | —— | Cloudy |
| 9 | 29.435 | 29 | 34 | —— | Snow |
| 10 | 29.43 | 34 | 36 | —— | Cloudy |
| 11 | 29.551 | 33 | 35 | —— | Ditto |
| 12 | 29.42 | 39 | 42 | —— | Ditto |
| 13 | 29.63 | 33 | 40 | —— | Clear |
| 14 | 29.751 | 42 | 43 | 0.032 | Showers |
| 15 | 29.862 | 42 | 43 | —— | Cloudy |
| 16 | 29.889 | 37 | 38 | 0.381 | Rain |
| 17 | 29.88 | 34 | 36 | —— | Cloudy |
| 18 | 29.851 | 36 | 38 | —— | Cloudy |
| 19 | 29.5 | 42 | 47 | 0.1 | Rain |
| 20 | 29.499 | 39 | 49 | 0.0451 | Showers |
| 21 | 29.555 | 44 | 47 | 0.2551 | Rain |
| 22 | 29.45 | 47 | 49 | —— | Cloudy |
| 23 | 29.3 | 43 | 46 | 0.05 | Rain |
| 24 | 29. | 40 | 41 | 0.2555 | Ditto |
| 25 | 29.061 | 38 | 41 | —— | Cloudy |

Quantity of Rain 1.9753

High Water at LEITH for JANUARY 1801.

| Days. | Morn. H. M. | Even. H. M. |
|---|---|---|
| Th. 1. | 3 49 | 4 13 |
| Fr. 2. | 4 36 | 4 58 |
| Sa. 3. | 5 10 | 5 41 |
| Su. 4. | 6 3 | 6 24 |
| M. 5. | 6 45 | 7 6 |
| T. 6. | 7 28 | 7 50 |
| W. 7. | 8 12 | 8 36 |
| Th. 8. | 9 0 | 9 26 |
| Fr. 9 | 9 52 | 10 21 |
| Sa. 10. | 10 50 | 11 21 |
| Su. 11. | 11 53 | —— |
| M. 12. | 0 24 | 1 9 |
| T. 13. | 1 33 | 2 7 |
| W. 14. | 2 38 | 3 10 |
| Th. 15. | 3 36 | 4 7 |
| Fr. 16. | 4 32 | 4 58 |
| Sa. 17. | 5 22 | 5 46 |
| Su. 18. | 6 8 | 6 30 |
| M. 19. | 6 51 | 7 13 |
| T. 20. | 7 34 | 7 56 |
| W. 21. | 8 18 | 8 40 |
| Th. 22. | 9 2 | 9 25 |
| Fr. 23. | 9 49 | 10 13 |
| Sa. 24. | 10 45 | 11 6 |
| Su. 25. | 11 28 | 11 54 |
| M. 26. | 0 19 | —— |
| T. 27. | 0 45 | 1 10 |
| W. 28. | 1 35 | 1 59 |
| Th. 29. | 2 24 | 2 47 |
| Fr. 30. | 3 10 | 3 32 |
| Sa. 31. | 3 54 | 4 15 |

MOON.

| | D. H. M. | |
|---|---|---|
| Laſt Qrtr. | 7. 11 59 | Even. |
| N. Moon | 14. 4 12 | Even. |
| Firſt Qrtr. | 21. 5 9 | Even. |
| Full Moon | 29. 10 3 | Even. |

OBSERVATIONS:

1801. *Jan.* 11, Tweed Fiſhing opens.
18. Queen's Birth Day kept.
30. King Charles I.'s martyrdom.

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FOR *DECEMBER* 1800.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEW.

THE Fall of Foyers is ſaid to be one of the higheſt in the world, and the quantity of water is ſufficient to give it conſequence.

The ſcene is awful and grand. Tho' an immenſe body of water falls down the celebrated cataract of Niagara, yet its height is not much more than half the height of this, being only 140 feet *.

The following particulars are given of this Fall:—From the top of the rocks, (where the ſmall figures are repreſented in the plate) to the ſurface of the water, is 470 feet.

Height of the Fall, in one continued ſtream, is 207 feet.

From the place where the water appears as if burſting thro' the rock, to the beginning of the uninterrupted fall, 5 feet.

So that the height of the Fall may properly be called 212 feet.

Down this precipice the river ruſhes with a noiſe like thunder into the abyſs below, forming an unbroken ſtream as white as ſnow: from the violent agitation ariſes a ſpray, which envelopes the ſpectator, and ſpreads to a conſiderable diſtance.

The following beautiful deſcription of this Fall, was written by Burns, (the Ayrſhire Poet,) as he was ſtanding by it:

Among the heathy hills and ragged woods,
The roaring Foyers pours his moſſy floods;
'Till full he daſhes on the rocky mounds,
Where thro' a ſhapeleſs breach his ſtream reſounds.
As high in air the burſting torrents flow,
As deep recoiling ſurges foam below,
Prone down the rock the whitening ſheet deſcends,
And viewleſs Echo's ear aſtoniſh'd rends.
Dim ſeen, thro' riſing miſts and ceaſeleſs ſhowers,
The hoary cavern wide-ſurrounding lours;
Still thro' the gap the ſtruggling river toils,
And ſtill below the horrid cauldron boils.

## *TO THE EDITOR THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.*

### COMPARISON BETWEEN THE STYLE OF ADDISON AND GIBBON.

SIR,

I HAD not, till very lately, an opportunity of reading a letter in the Edinburgh Magazine for September 1799, containing obſervations on the ſtile of Mr Gibbon, expreſſed with a degree of petulance, and acrimony, in my humble opinion, by no means proper or neceſſary. The writer contraſts it with that of Mr Addiſon, on which indeed he beſtows much praiſe, and as a proof of its ſuperior excellence, cites a paſſage from the well-known ſtory of Inkle and Yarico in the



* Morſe's American Geography.

the eleventh number of the Spectator. In the Magazine for November, are *anſwers* to the obſervations, which ſeem to have excited in the mind of the writer equal contempt and indignation: whoever he may be, he is a a warm and implicit admirer of the ſtile of Gibbon, which by a ſtrange perverſion of taſte, he appears to prefer to Addiſon's; ſeveral defects and inaccuracies of which he points out in the very paſſage from the Spectator, quoted in favour of Addiſon by the author of the obſervations.

Now, Sir, the truth is, the paper in the Spectator alluded to, happens not to be the production of Addiſon, but of Steele, which theſe gentlemen might eaſily have diſcovered, had they taken the trouble to conſult the ſignature at the end of it, the only method by which, I am afraid, ſuch critics, could be enabled, or taught to mark the difference; and ſurely on this occaſion I may be forgiven to add, that, to miſtake for a moment, the flat, involved, and harſh ſentences of Steele, (though in other reſpects an author of conſiderable wit and talents,) for the elegant, perſpicuous and harmonious periods of Addiſon, is a proof of neither taſte, judgment, nor diſcernment.

With regard to the ſtile of Gibbon, altho' it was not my intention to make it the ſubject of any part of this letter, (which very poſſibly, after all, you may not think worth the printing,) yet I ſhall juſt take the liberty to obſerve, that I believe the moſt candid, and impartial judges acknowledge that it poſſeſſes many beauties, and perhaps an equal number of blemiſhes, and that upon the whole it is not to be recommended as a model for the diſciple to imitate: I wiſh, however, there were not many things in the *Hiſtory of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire* more exceptionable, or more deſerving of cenſure, than the ſtile of it. I am, Sir, yours, &c. *Critic.*

## CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE LANDHOLDERS OF SCOTLAND, FROM THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOLMASTERS.

GENTLEMEN, *Edinburgh 19th Sept. 1800.*

THE Parochial Schoolmaſters of Scotland beg leave to addreſs you upon the ſtate of the Parochial Schools.

The origin of theſe may be aſcribed to an act of the Scottiſh Convention paſſed in the 1646; for though this act of the Convention was reſcinded in the lump with others at the Reſtoration, it was re-enacted, in nearly the ſame terms, by the 1ſt of William III. paſſed in the year 1696.

By this inſtitution, the children of the poor are not only taught to read their Bible, and the awful truths of Chriſtianity are early impreſſed upon their minds, but the children of the more wealthy, as well as of the poor, receive the firſt elements of education while under the roof of their parents, and remain under their care and ſuperintendance until thoſe manners and diſpoſitions are formed in the children which influence their future characters in ſociety.

That ſyſtem of education muſt be the beſt which keeps alive the affection of the parents towards their offſpring, and calls forth the affection of the children towards their parents; which does not diſturb the current of domeſtic attachment, or repreſs family endearment, but gives conſtant ſcope to their exercife, while it varies, heightens, and exalts them. In this point of view, the Pariſh Schools of Scotland claim an importance much beyond their effects as mere ſeminaries of learning. If England has afforded to mankind an example of the moſt perfect judicial eſtabliſhment that has ever been realized in any

any country, by bringing the means of justice to the door of every individual, Scotland, by her Parish Schools, exhibits the finest system of national education which the world has ever seen. The Legislature, by the act which established Parish Schools, in bringing the means of education to every man's home, presented to the view of every parent, not merely the duty of educating his children, but the more important duties of instilling into their minds the truths of religion, the laws of morality, and those principles of action which lead to right conduct.

Accordingly, there is no country where the duty of parents is more faithfully, more uniformly, or more conscientiously discharged than in Scotland, or where filial piety is more eminently conspicuous. Parents cheerfully submit to every privation which is necessary, or can any way tend to the future welfare of their children. These last, by remaining in family with their parents till they are put out to some employment or profession, are enabled to mark, and to carry with them into society in after life, those modes of thinking, and those sober and regular habits, which fit them in their turn for the discharge of those duties which have made them what they are. They repay the care and anxiety which their parents have bestowed upon them in their early years, by attention to them in their declining days; and in relieving the wants, and ministering to the comforts of their parents, Scotland here also presents a trait of national character, which is the best stay of national virtue.

But to produce these invaluable consequences, which the parochial schoolmasters humbly conceive to follow from the parochial schools, the institution must be respectable; the schoolmaster must be a man who is qualified to discharge the duties of his office, and from his station as well as conduct, to command the respect and esteem of his parishioners.

The office, however, cannot continue to be filled by persons of respectability, unless due encouragement is given to merit, by the provision made for its reward. It is upon this account that we presume to address you.

The highest sum given by the act of Parliament above referred to, is 200 merks Scots, or 11l. 2s. $2\frac{8}{12}$d. Sterling, *per annum*, leviable from the heritors according to their valued rent. The lowest sum is 100 merks Scots, or 5l. 11s. $1\frac{4}{12}$d. Sterling. Without insisting upon the difference between the value of money at that period and the present, or the great increase of the rents of land, and the price of every article of consumption, the Parish Schoolmasters beg leave to state, that the highest sum of income received by any one of their number, including every emolument, does not exceed 30l. *per annum*, and this only in two or three instances. The incomes of the bulk of them are under 20l. *per annum*.

The Parish Schoolmasters, therefore, are at the present moment in a worse situation than the lowest description of the labouring poor. They have been encouraged by persons of high authority to hope, that Parliament will see fit to restore them to that situation of respectability which is essential to the objects of the institution; and, with the sanction of the landed interest, the Parish Schoolmasters propose to submit their case to Parliament in the ensuing session. They do not profess to bring forward any plan. They merely wish to be enabled to make their situation known to the Legislature; trusting, that Parliament will in its justice see the necessity, and in its wisdom will adopt the best means of affording them relief. In the mean time, they think it their duty to give you this notice of their intention. They humbly

bly hope, that you will take their caſe into your conſideration at your next General Meeting. They will be happy to receive, and willingly attend to any hints or directions with which they may be favoured by the landed intereſt; and they humbly requeſt, that you will be pleaſed to ſignify the reſolution of your meeting to John Cooper ſchoolmaſter at Dalmeny, near Queensferry, who ſigns this letter, by appointment, from a meeting of the Pariſh Schoolmaſters held here on the 19th inſtant. We have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect, Gentlemen,

Your humble ſervants,

*John Cooper*, Preſes.

## ANECDOTES RESPECTING THE MARRIAGE PROJECTED BETWEEN THE KING OF SWEDEN, AND THE GRAND DUTCHESS ALEXANDRA, IN 1796.

*From Secret Memoirs of the Court of Peterſburg; particularly towards the End of the Reign of Catharine II. and the Commencement of that of Paul I.*

IT was difficult to find, I will not ſay a king, but a young man, more intereſting, better educated, and of ſo great promiſe, as the King of Sweden. He was ſeventeen years of age, tall and finely ſhaped, with an air of nobleneſs, intelligence, and mildneſs: yet there was ſomething of grandeur and ſtatelineſs about him, notwithſtanding his age; and he had all the graces of youth, without the awkwardneſs that uſually attends it. His manners were ſimple, though courteous and polite. Whatever he ſaid was ſpoken with reflection. To ſerious things he paid an attention not expected from youth: he diſplayed knowledge, that announced a very careful education; and a certain gravity, that beſpoke his rank, never forſook him. All the pomp of the Ruſſian empire, which was ſedulouſly exhibited to his view, ſeemed nowiſe to dazzle him. In that brilliant and numerous court, he ſoon appeared more at eaſe than the grand dukes themſelves, who knew not how to converſe with any perſon; ſo that both court and city ſoon drew compariſons between them very flattering to the young ſtranger. The Empreſs herſelf could not conceal the pain ſhe felt at the diſparity between him and the ſecond of her grandchildren, whoſe brutal and rude boyiſh tricks offended her to ſuch a degree, that ſhe put him under arreſt once or twice during the ſtay of the King of Sweden *.

The regent, who appeared to enjoy the honour of his labour in the approbation beſtowed on his pupil, is a very little man. His manners are eaſy and poliſhed; he has an air of acuteneſs and obſervation; his eyes are ſparkling and full of fire; every thing he ſays diſplays the man of underſtanding, and excites reflection in thoſe who hear him.

It may readily be ſuppoſed, that during the ſucceſſion of entertainments, the two lovers had frequent opportunities of ſeeing each other, converſing and dancing together; they became familiar, and appeared mutually enchanted. The aged Catharine aſſumed an appearance of youth, and again indulged in thoſe ſcenes of joy and pleaſure which ſhe had long ſince renounced. The approaching marriage was no longer a ſecret; it was the common topic of con-

* At a review of the corps of cadets of the artillery, where the young Guſtavus appeared attentive to every thing the moſt worthy of notice, converſing with the generals around him, and with the Grand Duke Alexander, who was appointed to do the honours of the empire, the Grand Duke Conſtantine was running and bawling behind the ſoldiers, imitating them in a burleſque manner, threatening them, and even beating them.

converſation. The Empreſs already ſpoke to the young king and her grand-daughter as betrothed lovers, and encouraged them to mutual affection. One day ſhe made them give the *firſt kiſs of love* in her preſence: the firſt, no doubt, that the virgin lips of the young princeſs ever received; and which may have left a pleaſing and cheriſhed impreſſion, that will long render her unhappy.

In the mean time ſteps were taking to bring this deſired match to a concluſion. The only difficulty which preſented itſelf, was that of religion. Catharine had felt the pulſe of her court on the ſubject; and even conſulted the archbiſhop, to know whether her grand-daughter might abjure the orthodox faith. Inſtead of anſwering in the way in which ſhe flattered herſelf he would have done, he merely replied: 'Your majeſty is 'all-powerful.' The chief patriarch of Ruſſia, not finding himſelf ſupported by the opinions of his clergy, was deſirous of appearing more Ruſſian than the Ruſſians themſelves; and, to flatter the national pride, rather than from reſpect to the Greek church, reſolved to make a queen of Sweden of the Greek religion. The king was enamoured, dazzled: the regent appeared to be completely gained: could it then be ſuppoſed that they would reject this arrangement, after ſuch deciſive ſteps had been taken? In the private converſations that had paſſed, this delicate ſubject had been but ſlightly touched upon: it was ſcarcely expected that Catharine would have any ſcruples; and the king had hinted, that, from reſpect to the Ruſſian nation and the prejudices of the people, the princeſs ſhould not be obliged to abjure the Greek religion in form. The Empreſs, perſuaded that there was no room for retreat, left to her favourite miniſters Zubof and Markof the care of drawing up the contract conformable to her views. On the other hand, the Swediſh ambaſſador demanded the princeſs in marriage, at an audience which was given him for the purpoſe of making the demand in form; and the day and hour on which the parties were to be publicly betrothed, were fixed.

This day, which was the 21ſt of September, expoſed the haughty and imperious Catharine to the greateſt chagrin and humiliation ſhe had ever experienced. The whole court received orders to aſſemble in full dreſs in the apartment of the throne. The young princeſs, habited as a bride, and attended by her ſiſters, the grand dukes and their wives, and all the ladies and gentlemen, with the grand duke, father to the princeſs, and the grand dutcheſs, who came from Gatſhina to be preſent at the ceremony of betrothing their daughter, were aſſembled by ſeven o'clock in the evening. The Empreſs herſelf arrived in all imaginable pomp. No one was wanting but the young bridegroom, whoſe tardineſs at firſt excited aſtoniſhment. The repeated going out and coming in of Prince Zubof, and the impatience which the Empreſs exhibited, ſoon excited the curioſity and whiſperings of the ladies. 'What is the matter? Is the king 'taken ill? He is not very gallant, 'however. How could he dare thus 'to make the ſovereign wait, in the 'apartment of her very throne, and 'with all her court aſſembled?' The king, however, expected like the ſpouſe of the eleven thouſand virgins, did not appear.

The following was the occaſion of this ſtrange delay: The king was to have been at court at ſeven in the evening. At ſix, the miniſter Markof brought him the contract and the articles of alliance, which he had juſt drawn up with Zubof. Guſtavus having read them over, appeared greatly aſtoniſhed on finding they contained articles on which he had not agreed with the empreſs; and aſked whether

it

it were from her they were brought to him to ſign *?

Markof anſwering in the affirmative, the king replied, that he could not poſſibly comply. He obſerved, that he would lay no reſtraint on the conſcience of the princeſs; that ſhe might profeſs her own religion in private, but he could not allow her either a chapel or prieſts in the palace: on the contrary, in public, and in all outward ceremonies, ſhe muſt profeſs the religion of the country. The reader may conceive the ſurpriſe and embarraſſment of Markof: he was obliged to take up his papers, and return to Zubof, to inform him that the king refuſed his ſignature. He ſoon after returned in the greateſt agitation, to ſay, that the Empreſs was already in the apartment of the throne, ſurrounded by all her court; that it was no longer poſſible to ſpeak to her; that ſhe waited for the king; and that he flattered himſelf he would not bring the affair to an open rupture, which would be an unheard-of inſult to his ſovereign, and to the whole empire. Beſborodko, and ſeveral others arrived in ſucceſſion, exhorting, urging, praying the king to yield. All the Swedes who were called in inclined the ſame way. The regent contented himſelf with ſaying, that it depended on the king; drew him aſide, and took a turn round the room with him, appearing himſelf to preſs him, while ſpeaking to him in a low voice. The king anſwered aloud, 'No, no; I will not; I cannot; I 'will never ſign them!' He withſtood all the remonſtrances, all the importunities of the Ruſſian miniſters; and at length, vexed at the pertinacity with which they beſet him, he retired to his chamber, and faſtened the door, after giving a clear and peremptory refuſal to ſign any thing inconſiſtent with the laws of his country. The Ruſſian miniſters remained ſtupified at the audacity of a boy, who dared thus reſiſt their ſovereign, and concerted how to break the cataſtrophe to her.

If the firmneſs which the young Guſtavus diſplayed on this occaſion were his own; if the ſolicitations which his counſellors appeared to make were not feigned, he has given his nation a proof of the greateſt character, which cannot be too highly admired in a young prince of ſeventeen, whom, it might be expected, love alone would have been ſufficient to ſubdue. It is to be preſumed, however, for the honour of the regent, that the entreaties which he appeared to uſe with his nephew were inſincere; and that he wiſhed only to charge the obſtinacy of the king with a reſiſtance which would probably have drawn upon him the immediate vengeance of Catharine.

Theſe debates between the miniſters of the Empreſs and the King continued till near ten o'clock. Catharine and her court were ſtill waiting: but at laſt it was neceſſary to inform her, that the affair was broken off. She roſe, attempted to ſpeak, but her tongue faltered; was like to faint; and even had a ſlight fit, the precurſor of that which carried her off a few weeks after. The Empreſs withdrew, and the court was diſmiſſed, under pretence of a ſudden indiſpoſition of the King. Some were offended at the audacity of a petty King of Sweden; others blamed the imprudence of the wife Catharine, who had ſo lightly expoſed herſelf to ſuch a ſcene: but the preſumption of Zubof and Markof, who had pretended to impoſe on the Swedes by their cunning, and who had thought of procuring a matrimonial contract to be ſigned without being read, was particularly cenſured.

THE

* Theſe articles were, that the princeſs ſhould have her private chapel and clergy in the royal palace, beſides certain engagements into which the Swedes were to enter againſt France, which have been kept very ſecret.

## LIFE OF ALLAN RAMSAY THE POET.

*Concluded from our laſt, p.* 348.

RAMSAY projected a publication, which promoted his intereſt, and ſpread his celebrity. Having already publiſhed Scots ſongs, which were ſo well received, as to paſs through a ſecond edition, in 1719; in January 1724, he publiſhed the firſt volume of the Tea-Table Miſcellany, a collection of ſongs, Scotiſh, and Engliſh. This little miſcellany was dedicated—

To ilka lovely Britiſh laſs,
Frae lady Charlotte, Anne, and Jean,
Down to ilk bonny ſinging Beſs,
Wha dances barefoot on the green.

This volume was ſoon followed by a ſecond. "Being aſſured," ſays the collector, "how acceptable new "words to known good tunes would "prove, I engaged to make verſes "for above ſixty of them, in theſe "two volumes: about thirty were "done by ſome ingenious young gen-"tlemen, who were ſo well pleaſed "with my undertaking, that they "generouſly lent me their aſſiſtance." The third volume of Celebrated Songs appeared in 1727, when the collector of them had commenced a bookſeller by trade. Several years afterwards, a fourth volume was added to the Tea-Table Miſcellany, though I know not if it were alſo collected by Ramſay. He complained, indeed, that Thomſon, the publiſher of the Orpheus Caledoneus, made uſe of his ſongs, without aſking his conſent, or acknowledging his obligations. The Tea-Table Miſcellany ran through twelve editions, in a few years, owing to the great demand, from general approbation.

Ramſay had now felt the facility, and found the benefit, of compilation: and he took advantage of an opinion, which, in thoſe days, prevailed in both the ends of our iſland, that none but poets could be the editors of poets. Rowe publiſhed an edition of Shakſpeare in 1709; and not long afterwards Pope undertook to give an edition of the ſame immortal dramatiſt. Thus incited, and encouraged, Ramſay publiſhed, in October 1724, The Evergreen, "being a collection "of Scots poems, wrote by the in-"genious before 1600." It ſeems to be univerſally agreed, that Ramſay failed in this difficult undertaking. "In making his compilation from "the Bannatyne MS." ſays the late Lord Hailes, "Ramſay has omitted "ſome ſtanzas, and added others; "has modernized the verſification, "and varied the ancient manner of "ſpelling." Neither Watſon the printer, who publiſhed, in 1706, "A Choice Collection of Scots "Poems;" nor Hamilton of Gilbertfield, when he re-publiſhed Blind Harry's Wallace; nor Ramſay, when he publiſhed his Evergreen, ſufficiently adverted, that if they changed the orthography, and modernized the verſe, the ſtate of the language, and the nature of the poetry, during former times, could no longer be diſcovered. It may, I think, be allowed, that Ramſay was not ſkilled in the ancient Scotiſh dialect, as Lord Hailes has ſuggeſted: he did not, indeed, underſtand the language of his country, as an antiquary; yet, as a poet, he acquired, by the performance of his taſk, a knowledge of ancient verſification; he learned old words; and he habituated himſelf to peculiarities of phraſe. From another imputation of Lord Hailes, that Ramſay, in compiling his gloſſary, "does not ſeem to have conſulted "Ruddiman's gloſſary to Douglas's "Virgil," I think our editor may be defended, by ſhewing, that his lordſhip ſpoke without authority, without comparing the gloſſaries of Ramſay with the gloſſary of Ruddiman.

It is a remarkable coincidence, that the firſt poem in Watſon's Choice Collection was Chriſt's Kirk on the Green, which he attributed to King James V.; and the firſt in the Evergreen of Ramſay was Chryſts Kirk on the Grene, which he attributed to King James I.: the ſecond in Ramſay's Evergreen is The Thiſtle and the Roſe of Dumbar; the firſt in Lord Hailes's Collection is The Thiſtle and the Roſe, which was written in 1503.

If we compare the two verſions, we ſhall be able to judge how far Ramſay departed from his duty, as an editor, to maintain his character, as a poet.

RAMSAY.

Quhen Merch with variand winds was overpaſt,
And ſweet Apryle had with his ſilver ſhowers
Tane leif of Nature with an orient blaſt,
And luſty May, that mudder is of flowrs,
Had maid the birds begin the tymous hours;
Amang the tendir odours reid and quhyt,
Quhois harmony to heir was grit delyt.

LORD HAILES.

Quhen Merche wes with variand windis paſt,
And Appryll had with hir ſilverſhouris
Tane leif at Nature with ane orient blaſt,
And luſty May, that muddir is of flouris,
Had maid the birdis to begyn thair houris
Amang the tendir odouris reid and quhyt,
Quhois harmony to heir it wes delyt.

Such are the variations of Ramſay from the ſtandard of the original manuſcript. He not only varied, but he alſo added: to Dumbar's Lament for the Deth of the Makkaris, our editor ſuperinduced three ſtanzas, in the form of a propheey, by the original author, wherein he introduced the editor, as "a lad frae Hether-muirs:"

XXV.

Suthe I forſie, if ſpaeeraft had,
Frae Hether-muirs ſall ryſe a lad,
Aftir two centries pas, ſall he
Revive our fame and memorie:

XXVI.

Then ſall we flouriſh Evirgrene;
All thanks to careful Bannatyne,
And to the patron* kind and frie
Quha lends the lad baith them and me.

XXVII.

Far ſall we fare baith eiſt and weſt,
Owre ilka clime by Scots poſſeſt:
Then ſen our warks ſall never die,
Timor mortis non turbat me.

I ſtrongly ſuſpect, that Ramſay wittingly inſerted in his Evergreen ſeveral poems, which were written by the ingenious ſubſequent to the year 1600, and even to the year 1700. In the firſt volume, is printed The Viſion, which, although it is ſaid to have been "compylit in Latin anno "1300, and tranſlatit in 1524," is obviouſly modern, more modern than the union, and more recent than the acceſſion of George I.: the verſification indeed is ancient, and is written in imitation of what King James calls the tumbling verſe, according to the royal revlis and cavtelis, "to be li-"teral [alliterative] ſo far as may "be†." Thus The Viſion abounds in alliterations:

Bedoun the bents of Banquo brae
Milane I wandert waif and wae,
Muſand our main miſchance;

Yet,

* Mr William Carmichael, brother to the Earl of Hyndeford, who lent "the lad" [Allan Ramſay] that curious collection of MSS. which had been formed by Mr George Bannatyne in 1568, whence thoſe poems were printed.

† It is a curious fact, in the hiſtory of Scotiſh poetry, that Scotland enjoyed the beneſit of an Art of Poeſie, before England poſſeſſed a ſimilar advantage, with all the efforts of Elizabeth's reign. Webb publiſhed his work in 1586, and Puttenham his Art of Poetry in 1589: but King James, who was born in 1566, publiſhed in 1585, when he was only nineteen, his "Schort Treatiſe, containing ſome revlis "and cavtelis to be obſervit and eſcheivit in Scottis Poeſie."

Yet, the ſentiments, and the ſtyle, are modern, and even the orthography is recent, although it is affectedly old: nor, did The Viſion appear, in any publication, or manuſcript, before it came forth in The Evergreen, with appropriate ſignatures, Ar. Scot, but not A. Scot; as it is printed in the Ancient Scots Poets: neither was there any poet in Scotland of the name of Ar. Scot, nor Archibald Scot; though there had been indeed an Alexander Scott, during the reign of Mary Queen of Scots*. From the epoch of the publication of The Viſion, Ramſay has been in poſſeſſion of what the tradition of his family has always ſaid was originally his own. The Viſion is declared to be "a capital poem," by the ſame editor, who treats Ramſay, as a writer, "ſhewing no ſpark of genius †."

In

* See his poetry in the Ancient Scots Poems, 1768, p. 191. 211.

† Ancient Scotiſh Poems, 1786, p. 127. 132. From the revival, in the preſent reign, of our taſte, for the publication, and the ſtudy of our national poetry, during other times, ingenious men caſt their eyes upon The Viſion, as an object of inquiry, both as to its merit and antiquity. The late Lord Hailes, and the preſent Dr. Beattie, conjectured, that it was modern, or was produced perhaps as late as the year 1715, as an incitement to the jacobitical ſpirit which then flamed out into action. Their conjectures are ſo far true, that The Viſion was undoubtedly written "ſen this diſgraceful paction," ſince the union; and ſubſequent to the epoch, "when ſum ſule Scotis lykd to drudge to princes no their awin:" it was jacobitiſh, in its tendency, in that age. The Viſion has never been diſcovered, by diligent, reſearch, in any ancient collection, either in print or MS. It ought to be admitted as a principle, in literary queſtions, that he who firſt publiſhes any productions muſt be deemed the writer of them, if he do not ſhew clearly who did write them. And it was certainly firſt publiſhed by Ramſay in 1724, under the diſguiſe of age, and under a ſignature, which referred to a poet of a prior epoch, and yet contained his own initials, in this form, Ar. Scot. Ramſay was in the habit of publiſhing ſuch poems under ſimilar diſguiſes, for the ſimilar purpoſe of concealing his principles and his practices: the Tale of Three Bonnets was thus publiſhed, without the name of the printer or bookſeller; but was advertiſed to be ſold at Ramſay's ſhop, "among his other pieces." No one ever doubted, whether this tale were of Ramſay's compoſition. Neither did the familiars, and the family, of our poet ever doubt whether The Viſion, and The Eagle and Robin Redbreiſt, were as certainly of his writing. Janet, the poet's daughter, told the late William Tytler, "that her father was the author of both: the Roman letters," ſaid ſhe, "plainly point out the name and ſirname of the author, with the addition of his "country, which he was always proud to acknowledge."—[Tranſ. of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, vol. i. p. 397.] The ſame lady repeated the ſame information to Alexander Fraſer Tytler, advocate, and profeſſor of hiſtory in Edinburgh, more recently: "that ſhe knew they were her father's compoſition; that "he always acknowledged them to his intimate friends; but did not chuſe to avow "them, for prudential reaſons."—[Mr Tytler's letter to me, dated the 21ſt of March 1794.] As to the internal evidence; the whole ſtrain of The Viſion is that of Ramſay: the fiction is old, but the ſentiments are new; it has all the inequalities, and unprecision, and politics, of Ramſay, with his mythological perſonages, Boreas and Somnes, and Mars and Bacchus. The author, indeed, has many flights of true poetry; but the ſtrength of his pinion does not long ſuſtain him on the wing: he ſoon deſcends from his elevation to the level of colloquial vulgariſms:—"and "leids us ſic a dance;"—"round lyk a wedder-cock;"—"about poor lickma-"dowps." It has been ſuggeſted to me by an ingenious friend, that explaining, in his gloſſary, the word "feidom" to mean "fatality," he does not ſeem to underſtand the phraſeology of his own poem. It is however a fact, that in Scotland, even to this day, "feidom" does ſignify "fatality," as Ramſay has explained it, and is, even now, in daily uſe: it is derived, and logically, from "fey," fatal, unhappy, unfortunate—[Rud. Gloſſ. G. Dougl. Virgil in vo.]; as from "wiſe," we form wiſdom;

In The Evergreen was alſo firſt printed "The Eagle and Robin Redbreiſt," with the ſame ſignature of AR. Scot; and it was re-publiſhed in The Union, as the production of Archibald Scott, and among the Ancient Scotiſh Poems, 1786, as "an elegant "fable" by Sir John Bruce. Yet, this is merely, one of Ramſay's uſual fables, in which he introduced himſelf, as a poet, diſcountenanced by royal neglect, under the fiction of the Robin, who—

Reſolvit again nae mair to ſing,
Quhair princelie bountie is ſuppreſt,
By ſic with quhome they ar oppreſt *.

In The Evergrene, was publiſhed, in the laſt place, Hardyknute, a fragment. The inquiry, and the acuteneſs, of recent times, have diſcovered this fragment to be, alſo, a modern compoſition. It was firſt printed at Edinburgh, in 1719, in a ſeparate folio; it was adopted into The Evergreen, in 1724; and it was republiſhed by Dodſley, in 1740 *. But, the author of this impoſing imitation of ancient poetry has not hitherto been diſtinctly aſcertained. A writer of diſcernment, and elegance, has juſtly remarked, "that ſome of the fineſt "lyric compoſitions of Scotland have "been produced by the fair ſex †." It is to a lady, that the world is indebted for Hardyknute; although it was not to Mrs Halkyt, nor to Mrs Wardlaw: but it was to a lady of a knightly family, as Wood, or Hearne, would have written. The accompliſhed authoreſs of Hardyknute was Lady Wardlaw of Pitrevie, in Fife, who was born in 1677, was married to Sir Henry Wardlaw, in 1696, and died, in 1726, or 1727 ‖ and was buried in the family vault, within the church of Dunfermline. The minute inquiries, which I have made, on this curious ſubject, have perfectly ſatisfied me, that Lady Elizabeth Wardlaw was the authoreſs of Hardyknute.

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wiſdom; and from "king," kingdom. It is apparent, then, that Ramſay underſtood perfectly the common word feidom, as he properly applied it in the firſt ſtanza of The Viſion. Upon the whole, it ſeems to me, that the evidence, for the affirmative propoſition, that our poet did write The Viſion, and The Eagle and Robin Redbreiſt, is deciſive; and that the objections, in ſupport of the negative propoſition, are founded in mere ſuſpicion, and ſurmiſe. Such are the reaſons, which are ſubmitted, for inſerting both thoſe poems, in this edition of Ramſay's Poetry; as being at once the products of his genius, and ſpecimens of his performances.

* In the Life of Johnſon, vol. i. p. 93. Boſwell ſays, what ſurely muſt have ariſen from ſome miſtake, that Guthrie informed him, he was the author of "the "beautiful little piece, The Eagle and Robin Redbreaſt, in the collection of poems, "intitled The Union." Neither Boſwell, nor Guthrie, ſeem to have adverted, that this "beautiful poem" was firſt publiſhed in The Evergreen, by the original author of it, when Guthrie muſt have been a very young man: for he died on the 9th of March 1770.—[Gent. Mag. 143.]

† Hardyknute was then republiſhed in 4to. with an appropriate preface, and notes. Upon inquiring of Mr Dodſley, about the editor of the edition, 1740, he anſwered, with his uſual liberality, "that we received the poem of Hardyknute "from a Scots gentleman of the name of Moncrief, but can give no further ac-"count of him; except that about that time he was tutor to ſome nobleman's ſon "at Eton." Thus far Mr Dodſley. John Moncrief, a Scotſman, tutor to a young gentleman at Eton, died about 1767, having produced a tragedy, intitled, Appius, 8vo. 1755.—[Biog. Dram. 323.—]

† Scotiſh Songs, 1794, p. 77.

‖ Sir Charles Hacket, Bart. of Pitferran, by Janet, the daughter of Sir Patrick Murray, Bart. of Dreddon, had one ſon, who died unmarried in 1705, and ſeven daughters. Elizabeth, their ſecond daughter, was baptized on the 15th of April 1677;

It was intended by Ramſay, if his knowledge had been equal to his inclination, to give an account of the authors, who wrote the poems, which were publiſhed in The Evergreen: but, he delayed his laudable deſign till the publication of the third, or fourth, volume, which, however, was never given, though ſuch a purpoſe was thus announced. Conſidering into whoſe hands ſuch undertakings were to fall, it is not much to be regretted, that Ramſay never executed what he was unfit to perform. There ſeems never to have been but a ſecond edition of The Evergreen, which was printed, at Edinburgh, for Alexander Donaldſon, in 1761, without any amendment, or addition.

Ramſay undertook, in the mean time, a taſk, which was more congenial to his talents. Our poet had plainly a ſtrong propenſity to paſtoral poetry: he wrote a paſtoral, intitled Richy and Sandy, on the death of Addiſon; he wrote a paſtoral, on the death of Prior; he wrote a paſtoral ode, on the marriage of the Earl of Weemys; he wrote a paſtoral maſque, on the nuptials of the Duke of Hamilton, in 1723. And he publiſhed, in his 4to of 1721, Patie and Roger, a paſtoral, inſcribed to Joſiah Burchet, one of his firſt patrons. This was followed, in 1723, by Jenny and Meggy, a paſtoral, being "a ſequel to Patie and Roger." Nothing now remained for Ramſay, but to adopt the intimations, which he received from his friends, and to throw his two paſtorals into a more dramatical form, with appropriate ſongs.

This project he happily executed, in

1677; was married, on the 13th of June 1696, to Sir Henry Wardlaw, Bart: this is the authoreſs of Hardyknute. Sir Charles Hacket's ſixth daughter Charlotte married Sir John Hope Bruce of Kinroſs.---(Dougl. Bar. p. 283---286.) Sir John Bruce, of conſequence, married the ſiſter of Lady Elizabeth Wardlaw. This obſervation ſhews the connection between Sir John and Lady Wardlaw. Sir John, when applied to by Lord Binning, with regard to Hardyknute, ſent him a copy of that, which he had found in a vault at Dumfermline, in "performance of his promiſe." From theſe dark expreſſions, it is inferred, that Sir John was the author, rather than the finder of it,---(Anc. Scot. Poems, 1786, p. 127. Percy's Ancient Poems, vol. iii. p. 3.) There is not the leaſt evidence, that Sir John Bruce ever wrote any poetry. It is apparent, that though Sir John may have told the truth, that he did not tell the whole truth; that he knew, but did not chooſe to tell, who was the author; that having given a promiſe, he thought himſelf obliged to ſay ſomething; but, he in the meantime conſulted his wife's ſiſter, who was the authoreſs; and who yet did not think fit to allow him to ſpeak out. On the other hand; "the late Mr Hepburn of Keith often declared, he was in the houſe with "Lady Wardlaw, when ſhe wrote Hardyknute."---(Sir Charles Hacket's letter, dated the 2d November 1794, to Dr Stenhouſe of Dumfermline.) Miſs Elizabeth Menzies, ahe daughter of James Menzies, Eſq. of Woodend, in Perthſhire, by Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Henry Wardlaw, wrote to Sir Charles Hacket, that her mother, who was ſiſter-in-law to Lady Wardlaw, told her, that Lady Wardlaw was the real authoreſs of Hardyknute: that Mary, the wife of Charles Wedderburn, Eſq. of Goſford, told Miſs Menzies, that her mother, Lady Wardlaw, wrote Hardyknute: both Sir Charles Hacket, and Miſs Elizabeth Menzies, concur in ſaying, that Lady Wardlaw wes a woman of elegant accompliſhments, who wrote other poems, and practiſed drawing, and cutting paper with her ſciſſars; and who had much wit, and humour, with great ſweetneſs of temper.---(Sir Charles Hacket's MS. Account of the Wardlaw Family.) The ſecond edition of Percy's Reliques, 1767, vol. ii. p. 94. ſpeaks of the virtual ackowledgement of the authoreſs, by the name of Mrs Wardlaw: yet, in the ſame book, ed. 1794, vol. iii. p. 3. the editor relinquiſhed his before-mentioned approximation to the truth, by adopting, from the ſaid Ancient Scots Poems, the ſtory of Sir John Bruce, which contains, at leaſt, a falſe concluſion, from dubious premiſes.

in 1725, by the publication of his Gentle Shepherd; which is one of the fineſt paſtoral comedies in any language; and which could have been, only, produced by art, co-operating with genius, in a propitious moment for ſhepherdiſh poetry. The name, he probably adopted from the gentle ſhepherd in the twelfth ægloge of Spenſer. This paſtoral comedy, as Ramſay called his Doric drama, the poet dedicated, in plain proſe, to Suſannah, the Counteſs of Eglinton, in June 1725. There was, at the ſame time, a poetical dedication of more elaborate praiſe, by Hamilton of Bangour, an amiable man, and accompliſhed poet, who finiſhed his ſhort career, at Lyons, in 1754, at the age of fifty. This is the ſame dignified lady, to whom, at the age of 85, Johnſon, and Boſwell, offered their homage; whoſe powers of pleaſing continued ſo reſplendent, as to charm the faſtidious ſage into a declaration that, in viſiting ſuch a woman, he had ſpent his day well. This celebrated patroneſs of poets was the accompliſhed daughter of the noble houſe of Kennedy, who having married, in 1708, Alexander the Earl of Eglinton, by whom ſhe had three ſons, two of whom ſucceeded to the earldom, and ſeven daughters, who married into honourable families, died on the 18th of March 1780, at the patriarchal age of ninety-one *.

The ſecond edition of this paſtoral comedy was printed by Ruddiman, in 1726, for the author, who ſtill reſided at his ſhop, as a bookſeller, oppoſite the Croſs at Edinburgh †. The tenth edition of it was reprinted by the elegant types of R. and A. Foulis, at Glaſgow, in 1750. It has ſince paſſed through many editions, ſome of them with greater, and ſome with leſs elegance, and accuracy. What has thus pleaſed many, and pleaſed long, it would be uſeleſs to praiſe, and idle to cenſure. When this captivating drama was firſt acted, cannot be eaſily aſcertained; but, it certainly was repreſented after The Orphan, in January 1729, when the author of it contributed an epilogue.

It has been the fate of Ramſay, as it was, indeed, of Terence, to have his fame leſſened by detraction, which has attributed to others his dramatic powers: Scipio, and Lælius, are ſaid to have had a great ſhare in the compoſition of Terence's plays: Sir John Clerk, and Sir William Bennet, are alleged, on leſs authority, to have aſſiſted Ramſay, in his Gentle Shepherd: but it has been well obſerved by the late Lord Hailes, "that they "who attempt to depreciate his "fame, by inſinuating, that his friends "and patrons compoſed the works, "which paſs under his name, ought "firſt to prove, that his friends, and "patrons, were capable of compoſing "The Gentle Shepherd ‡."

Ramſay ſhewed, alſo, his dramatical propenſities, by writing prologues, and epilogues, for occaſional dramas: he began this congenial practice in 1719, and concluded it in 1729. Some of theſe may vie with the fineſt, in the Engliſh language, for propriety of ſatire, and happineſs of point; delicacy of wit, and neatneſs of phraſe: this commendation is amply juſtified by his prologue, which was ſpoken by one of the gentlemen, who acted at Edinburgh The Orphan, and The Cheats of Scapin, for their diverſion, on the laſt night of the year 1719.

The celebrity of Ramſay was attended, however, like the other felicities of life, with circumſtances of mor-

* Scots Mag. p. 167.

† In the Pariſh regiſter, which records the baptiſm of his children, Ramſay is called a piriwige-maker, in 1713; a weegmaker, in 1714, 1715, and 1716; but on the 10th of Auguſt 1725, he is called a bookſeller.

‡ Ancient Scotiſh Poems, 1678, p. 8.

mortification. He had to ſtruggle with contemporary contenders for poetic fame. There were publiſhed, about that time, ſome ſtanzas, intitled, "A Block for Allan Ramſay's "Wigs, or, the famous Poet fallen "in a trance." There were alſo printed ſome verſes, called, "Allan "Ramſay metamorphoſed to a Hea- "therbloter Poet; in a paſtoral, be- "tween Ægon and Melibiæ." Ramſay was thus induced to give his "Reaſons for not anſwering the "Hackney Scribblers:"

> Theſe to my blyth indulgent friends;
> Dull foes nought at my hands deſerve:
> To pump an anſwer's a' their ends;
> But, not a line, if they ſhould ſtarve.

By the attacks of ſuch ſcribblers, Ramſay ſeems not to have been much moved. He continued to pleaſe his numerous readers, by publiſhing, ſucceſſively, popular poems: he printed his Fables and Tales, in 1722: his Tale of Three Bonnets, in the ſame year; The Fair Aſſembly, in 1723: his poem On Health, which he addreſſed to the celebrated Earl of Stair: and he was thus enabled to publiſh, in 1728, a ſecond volume of his poems, in quarto; including The Gentle Shepherd, and his Maſque on the nuptials of the Duke of Hamilton, which brings to our recollection the ſimilar madrigals of Ben Jonſon. Of this quarto, an octavo edition was publiſhed, in 1729: both the volumes were re-publiſhed, at London, for the bookſellers, during the year 1731. The poetry of Ramſay met with a flattering welcome, not only in Scotland, and in England, but alſo in the colonies, and in Ireland: and there was publiſhed, at Dublin, an edition of his poems in 1733. Of this univerſity of reception, our bard delighted to ſing, in grateful ſtrains, both as a poet, and a bookſeller.

In 1730, Ramſay publiſhed "A "Collection of thirty Fables." In this ſpecies of poetry, he appears to have greatly indulged; becauſe what he eaſily found, he readily delivered: yet, about this time, he ſeems to have ceaſed writing for the public, at the age of forty-five; having diligently tried, during twenty years, to pleaſe his countrymen, and benefit himſelf. In his letter to Smibert, he ſays, in 1736, "theſe ſix or ſeven "years paſt I have not written a line "of poetry: I e'en gave over in good "time, before the coolneſs of fancy, "that attends advanced years, ſhould "make me riſk the reputation I had "acquired *." Ramſay had now obtained, by his poetry, all the fame, which was to be had; and he was incited, by his love of profit, to buſy himſelf, not in writing, but in ſelling, and circulating books. In 1726, he removed from his original dwelling, at the Mercury, oppoſite the Croſs-well, to a houſe, which had been the London Coffee-houſe, in the eaſt end of the Luckenbooths. With this change of ſituation, he altered his ſign; and inſtead of the original Mercury, he now adopted the heads of two poets, Drummond of Hawthornden, and Ben Jonſon: here he ſold, and lent, books, till a late period of his life: here the wits of Edinburgh uſed to meet for amuſement, and for information. From this commodious ſituation, Gay, a congenial poet, was wont to look out upon the Exchange of Edinburgh, in order to know perſons, and to aſcertain characters †.

It

* This curious letter, which is dated the 10th of May 1736, was firſt publiſhed in the Gent. Mag. September 1784, p. 672; and was thence copied into other miſcellanies.

† The late William Tytler, Eſq. recollected Gay, in the ſhop, deſiring Ramſay "to explain to him many of the Scotiſh expreſſions of The Gentle Shepherd, "which

It was in this ſociety, and in that ſtation, that Ramſay's paſſion for the drama returned on him. In 1736, at the age of fifty, he undertook to build "a playhouſe new, at vaſt expence:" this houſe, he built in Carrubber's Cloſe. He boaſts of having

"—— kept our troop, by pith of reaſon,
"Frae bawdy, atheiſm, and treaſon."

In vain did Ramſay, and his troop, "Only preach, frae moral fable, "The beſt inſtruction they were able." The act, for licenſing the ſtage, which was paſſed in 1737, cruſhed the poet's hopes of conveying "the beſt inſtruction," and calmed the ſcrupuloſity of thoſe, who feared, that amuſement, and religion, could not exiſt together.

At Edinburgh, the magiſtrate had not yet conſidered, like the miniſters of Elizabeth, that, in well-regulated ſociety, public amuſements may produce advantages, without any other evils, than can be eaſily corrected. The rulers of Edinburgh, thinking very differently from our dramatiſt, as to the mode, and the matter, of the inſtruction, which was thus given to the citizens, who were entruſted to their care, ſhut up his playhouſe; leaving the undertaker without relief, for what the law conſidered as a damage, without an injury *. Our dramatiſt had, on this occaſion, other mortifications to ſuffer: there was ſoon publiſhed a poetical pamphlet, containing, 'The Flight of Religi- "ous Piety from Scotland, upon the "account of Ramſay's lewd books, "and the hell-bred playhouſe comedians, who debauch all the faculties of the ſoul of our riſing gene- "ration."—There alſo appeared, "A Looking-glaſs for Allan Ramſay:"—"The dying words of "Allan Ramſay." The lampooners left intimations of what muſt have given conſiderable conſolation to our adventurous dramatiſt: that "he "had acquired wealth;" that "he "poſſeſt a fine houſe;" that "he "had raiſed his kin to high degree:" all thoſe advantages, we may eaſily ſuppoſe, were merely comparative. This puritanical poet, like other ſatiriſts, did not advert, that his topics of cenſure did more honour than hurt to Ramſay, who was only low by accident, and had, by fair means, raiſed himſelf to competence, and his family to diſtinction.

The obſcure hiſtory of the public amuſements of Scotland ſtill requires much illuſtration. Before the acceſſion of King James, who merits commendation for protecting the drama, hiſtrionic repreſentations ſtood upon the ſame principle in Scotland, as in England, of allowing the uſe, yet correcting the abuſe, of ſuch exhibitions. A century of fanaticiſm enſued, with her agitations, and her bloodſhed, which obſtructed improvement, by depreſſing genius, and perverting effort. Merriment began to move on light fantaſtic toe, during the reign of Charles II. But the union of the two kingdoms forms the epoch of melioration, though not ſo much from any poſitive proviſion, as by conſequential reſults. When fanaticiſm

"which Gay ſaid he would communicate to Pope, who was a great admirer of "that paſtoral." Gay uſed to accompany the Duke and Ducheſs of Queenſbery to Scotland. Gay was deſcribed by Mr Tytler, as "a little pleaſant-looking man, "with a tye-wig."

* There is happily preſerved in the Gentleman's Mag. 1737, p. 507, a poetical Addreſs from Ramſay to the Honourable Duncan Forbes, the Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, and the other Judges. This illuſtrious preſident was appointed to that high truſt, on the 21ſt of June 1737, a fact, which would aſcertain the dates of this whole tranſaction, if the licenſing act (10 Geo. II. ch. 28.) were not mentioned.

naticiſm was repreſſed, the deſire of theatrical amuſements began ſoon to revive. As early as the ſummer of 1715, an year of agitation, a regular company of comedians acted plays, at the Tennis-court, in Holyrood-houſe. In the ſubſequent winter, the ſcene was ſhifted from the Tennis-court to "the old Magazine-"houſe at the back of the foot of "the Canongate." On this occaſion, the lovers of the drama were informed, "that ſeveral parts would be "performed by ſome new actors juſt "arrived from England *." From this epoch, Edinburgh was frequently exhilarated by ſcenic repreſentations, which were, ſometimes, diverſified "by entertainments of ſinging "and dancing, by gentlemen for their "diverſion." On the laſt night of the year 1719, Ramſay ſupplied a prologue, which is remarkable, at once, for elegant raillery, and healthful merriment. He again furniſhed a prologue, in 1726, when Anthony Aſton entertained the citizens of Edinburgh with theatrical amuſements. Ten years afterwards, our dramatiſt undertook, in an unlucky hour for his own intereſt, to be the proprietor of a playhouſe, which, as we have ſeen, was ſhut up by the magiſtrate. In 1739, the parliament was moved for legal authority to eſtabliſh a playhouſe at Edinburgh, which was refuſed; becauſe the ſpirit of certain claſſes of the people was not yet ſufficiently prepared to endure ſalutary mirth. They were protected in the enjoyment of their gloom, by the licenſing act, which was ere long circumvented. It was in 1741, that Thomas Eſte eſtabliſhed a theatre in the Taylors' Hall, under the pretence of giving a concert of muſic †. The paſſions of the people, which were ſharpened by oppoſition, ſupported this evaſion of law. In 1746, a theatre was built in the Canongate, where plays were acted, at ſtated times, under a ſimilar evaſion. Thus, Ramſay had the ſatisfaction to ſee, at the age of ſixty, dramatical entertainments enjoyed by the citizens, whoſe theatrical wiſhes he had rekindled, and enflamed.

Our poet, as he had now ceaſed to write, for the public, was only attentive to his ſhop, and his family. He ſent his ſon to Rome, in 1736, in order to acquire, at that illuſtrious ſeat of knowledge, the art of painting, by which he roſe to eminence. His wife, who died in 1743, ſeems to have paſſed to her grave, without an elegy; becauſe the loſs was too afflicting for loquacity to deplore ‡. She left him three daughters, who, as they were advanced to womanhood, in ſome meaſure ſupplied her ſociety, and ſuperintendance. He ſpent much of his time, during his latter years, with Sir John Clerk of Pennycuik and Sir Alexander Dick of Preſtonfield, who courted his company, becauſe they were delighted by his facetiouſneſs. He probably relinquiſhed his ſhop in 1755; and, for ſome years, he lived in a fantaſtical houſe of an octagon form, which he had built, on the north ſide of the Caſtle-hill; and which he thought a paragon: this houſe, he was induced, by his

* All thoſe facts are mentioned, on the authority of the Scots Courant of the 5th, 10th, and 15th of Auguſt, and of the 16th of December 1715: and thoſe facts diſprove what is ſaid by Arnot [Hiſt. Edin. p. 366.]; and by Jackſon, after him. [Hiſt. of the Scots Stage, p. 22.]

† The Caledonian Mercury of the 12th February 1745, announced the death of Thomas Eſte, "one of the managers of the concert in the Taylors' Hall, who has, "for theſe four years paſt, moſt agreeably entertained the town with his excellent "performances on the ſtage."

‡ Chriſtian Roſs, ſpouſe to Allan Ramſay merchant, was buried in the cemetery of the Grayfriars, on the 28th of March 1743.—[Rec. of Mortality.]

his vanity, to ſhew to the late Lord Elibank, who had both acuteneſs, and wit; telling his lordſhip, at the ſame time, that the cits ſay, it reſembles a gooſe-pye; to which my lord readily replied: "Indeed, Allan, "now that I ſee you in it, I think "the term is very properly applied."

We may learn ſome important circumſtances, with regard to our poet's mature years, and advanced fortune, from an unpubliſhed copy of verſes, which he wrote to James Clerk, Eſq. of Pennycuik, on the 9th of May 1755:

Born to not e'en ae inch of ground,
I keep my conſcience white and ſound;
And tho' I ne'er was a rich keeper,
To make that up, I live the cheaper;
By that ae knack, I 've made a ſhift
To drive ambitious cares adrift:
And now in years and ſenſe grown auld,
In eaſe I like my limbs to ſauld.
Debts I abhor, and plan to be
Frae ſhackling trade and danger free;
That I may, looſe frae care and ſtrife,
With calmneſs view the edge of life,
And, when a full ripe age ſhall crave,
Slide eaſily into my grave;
Now, ſeventy years are o'er my head,
And thirty mae may lay me dead *.

When Ramſay talked thus familiarly of life and death, he was much afflicted with the ſcurvy in his gums; which had deprived him not only of his teeth, but even of a part of the jaw-bone. While he jocoſely counted upon thirty years to be added to ſeventy, he much miſcalculated the chances of life; for, he died at Edinburgh, on the 7th of January 1758, when he had paſſed the age of ſeventy-two, and was buried in the church-yard of the Grey-friars †.

Chriſtian Roſs, the wife of Allan Ramſay, brought him many children ‡. Two daughters, Chriſtian, and

* MS. copy from Sir James Clerk. Theſe verſes diſprove an unauthorized ſtory, which was firſt told in Lord Gardenſton's Miſcellanies. It is therein invidiouſly ſaid, "that Ramſay died a bankrupt; and that his ſon paid his debts." We have ſeen, that the poet, as a diſcreet man, "abhorred debts:" his ſon may have been his executor, and may have paid ſuch petty debts, as the moſt prudent houſekeeper muſt owe, when he pays the debt which all muſt pay. Some houſes in the Luckenbooths are, to this day, poſſeſt by our poet's daughter, from his bequeſt. He died in eaſy circumſtances, as I have been aſſured by a very intelligent friend, at Edinburgh, who knew the poet's pecuniary affairs.

† He was buried on the 9th of January 1758.—[Record of Mortality.] He is therein called "Allan Ramſay, poete, who died of old age. He was well known "for his Gentle Shepherd, and many other poetical pieces in the Scotch dialect, "which he wrote and collected."—[Scots Mag. vol. xix. p. 670.] The Gentleman's Magazine, 1758, p. 46. which alſo records his death, calls Ramſay, with leſs faſtidiouſneſs, "the celebrated poet." He, who had panegyrized ſo many poets, now departed with ſcarcely any poetical notice. Sir John Clerk, one of the Barons of the Exchequer in Scotland, who admired his genius, and knew his worth, erected, at his family ſeat of Pennycuik, an obeliſk to the memory of Ramſay. At Woodhouſelee, near the ſcene of the Gentle Shepherd, Alexander Fraſer Tytler, Eſq. has dedicated a ruſtic temple

"ALLANO RAMSAY *et* GENIO LOCI.

"Here, midſt thoſe ſcenes that taught thy Doric Muſe
"Her ſweeteſt ſong; the hills, the woods, and ſtream,
"Where beauteous Peggy ſtray'd, liſt'ning the while
"Her Gentle Shepherd's tender tale of love;
"Scenes, which thy pencil, true to Nature, gave
"To live for ever; ſacred to this ſhrine;
"And unprofan'd, by ruder hands, the ſtone,
"That owes its honours to thy deathleſs name."

‡ At Edinburgh the ſixth day of October 1713. Regiſtrate to Allan Ramſay, periwige-maker, and Chriſtian Roſs, his ſpouſe, New

and Janet, and a ſon, Allan, ſurvived him. This ſon, who appears to have received an excellent education, was born with a genius both for poetry and painting. He ſtudied the imitative art at London, and at Rome, which he practiſed as a profeſſion; and having riſen to diſtinction as a ſcholar, and a painter, he died on the 10th of Auguſt 1784, at Dover, on his return from France. Allan Ramſay, the painter, was twice married: firſt to Miſs Bayne, the daughter of Mr Profeſſor Bayne of Edinburgh, and the ſiſter of the late gallant Captain Bayne of the navy; by whom he had a daughter, who died under age: he married, for his ſecond wife, the eldeſt daughter of Sir Alexander Lindſay of Evelick, Baronet, by Emilia, the daughter of the Viſcount of Stormont, and niece to the great Earl of Mansfield; ſhe was alſo the ſiſter of the late Sir David Lindſay, and Sir John Lindſay: ſhe died in 1782; leaving by Allan Ramſay, a daughter, who married the late General Sir Archibald Campbell, K. B.; a daughter, who married Colonel Malcolm; and a ſon, who is the male repreſentative of our poet, Lieutenant-Colonel John Ramſay of the third regiment of foot guards.

Ramſay, the poet, left behind him ſo many intimations, with regard to his perſon, and his character, that the diligent biographer has more to compile, than to conjecture: of himſelf, his vanity delighted to ſpeak:

Imprimis, then, for tallneſs, I
Am five foot and four inches high:
A black-a-vice dapper fellow,
Nor lean, nor overlaid with tallow.

As he advanced in years, his appearance, no doubt, changed. He is deſcribed, by thoſe who remember him, as a ſquat man, with a big belly, and a ſmiling countenance, who wore a fair round wig, which was rather ſhort. He deſcribed himſelf at a different period; when his vanity was ſtudious to tell,

—— I the beſt and faireſt pleaſe;
A little man that lo'es my eaſe;
And never thole theſe paſſions lang,
That rudely mint to do me wrang.

With all his ſocialneſs, and conviviality, he never indulged to exceſs in the pleaſures of the table:

I hate a drunkard, or a glutton;
Yet, I'm nae fae to wine and mutton.

Then,



New Kirk pariſh, a ſon, Allan. Witneſſes, John Symers, William Mitchell, and Robert Mein, merchants, burgeſſes; and William Baxter.

Regiſtrate to Allan Ramſay, weegmaker, burges, and Chriſtian Roſs his ſpouſe, North Eaſt (College Kirk) pariſh, a daughter named Suſanna. Witneſſes, John Symers, merchant, and John Moriſon, merchant. The child was born on the firſt inſtant. 3d October 1714.

Regiſtrate to Allan Ramſay, weegmaker, and Chriſtian Roſs his ſpouſe, North Eaſt pariſh, a ſon, Niell. Witneſſes, Walter Boſwell, ſadler, and John Symers, merchant. 9th October 1715.

Regiſtrate to Allan Ramſay, weegmaker, and Chriſtian Roſs his ſpouſe, North Eaſt pariſh, a ſon, Robert. Witneſſes, John Symers, merchant, and Walter Boſwell, ſadler. The child was born on the 10th inſtant. 23d November 1716.

Regiſtrate to Allan Ramſay, bookſeller, and Chriſtian Roſs his ſpouſe, a daughter, named Agnes. Witneſſes, James Norie, painter, and George Young, Chyrurgeon. Born the 9th inſtant. 10th Auguſt 1725.

[Extracted from the Regiſter of Births and Baptiſms for the City of Edinburgh, by John Murdoch, Dep. Seſſ. Clerk.]

Chriſtian Roſs brought Allan Ramſay three other Daughters, who were not recorded in the Regiſter: one who was born in 1719, one in 1720, and one in 1724, who are mentioned, in his letter to Smibert, as fine girls; "no ae wally dragle "among them all." Chriſtian died, lately; Janet is ſtill alive.

Then, for the fabrick of my mind;
'Tis mair to mirth than grief inclin'd:
I rather chooſe to laugh at folly,
Than ſhew diſlike by melancholy.

As to his religion, he honeſtly avowed his creed:

Neiſt, Anti-Toland, Blunt, and Whiſton,
Know poſitively I'm a Chriſtian;
Believing truths, and thinking free,
Wiſhing thrawn parties would agree.

With regard to his politics; he confeſſed to Arbuckle;

Well then, I'm neither whig, nor tory,
Nor credit give to purgatory.

But there was another party, the Jacobites, for which Ramſay had a predilection, whatever neutrality he might affect. As a poet, he naturally loved freedom, and arrogated independence; as all the poets are fond of courting the mountain nymph, ſweet Liberty. Of the propenſities of his lengthened life, he declares:

I never cou'd imagine 't vicious,
Of a fair fame to be ambitious,
Proud to be thought a comic poet,
And let a judge of numbers know it;
I court occaſion thus to ſhow it.

He avowed alſo in plain proſe, "that "I have expreſſed my thoughts in "my native dialect, which was not "only inclination, but the deſire of "my beſt, and wiſeſt friends; and "moſt reaſonable; ſince good ima- "gery, juſt ſimiles, and all manner of "ingenious thoughts, in a well-laid "deſign, is poetry: then, good poetry may be in any language."

About his learning he is equally explicit, in making his acknowledgments: he declares, without bluſhing, that "I underſtand Horace but "faintly in the original; and yet can "feaſt on his beautiful thoughts "dreſſed in Britiſh [Engliſh]: and "perhaps it had been no worſe for "the great Lyric, if Doctor Bentley "had underſtood the Latin tongue "as little as I." He is equally explicit as to his ignorance of the Greek: "The Scotticiſms, which "perhaps may offeud ſome over-nice "ear, give new life, and grace, to the "poetry; and become their places as "well, as the Doric dialect of Theo- "critus, which is ſo much admired "by the beſt judges: when I men- "tion that tongue, I bewail my own "little knowledge of it*." Yet Ramſay, like other half-learned men, was ſtudious at times to ſhew his erudition. He cultivated the acquaintance of Ruddiman, who was always ready to ſpare to the needy, and helpleſs, a part of his own ſtores of claſſic lore. From this fountain of learning, Ramſay eaſily drew the Latin and Greek mottos, which he frequently prefixed to his ſeparate pamphlets; and which, as unſuitable to ſuch poems, by ſuch a bard, have been excluded from theſe volumes: ſcholars did not want ſuch mottos; and the unlearned wiſh ſuch obſtructions out of their way.

Our poet, whatever might be the humility of his pretenſions, had his maligners, and competitors. I greatly ſuſpect, that Alexander Pennecuik, citizen of Edinburgh, who was called "that famous and learned poet," wrote "The Flight of Religious "Piety from Scotland, upon account "of Ramſay's lewd books." This Alexander Pennecuik muſt be diſtinguiſhed from Dr. Alexander Pennecuik, a phyſician, in Tweedale, who publiſhed a topographical deſcription of that paſtoral diſtrict, in 1715, and who was alſo ambitious of public fame†, as a poet, and topographer. The rival of Ramſay was a much younger perſon, who reſided in Edinburgh, where he publiſhed "Streams "from Helicon," and other miſcellanies, from time to time, while Ramſay roſe into notice, notwithſtanding his rivalry. HIS-

* The Preſ. to the ed. 1721.

† The two Pennecuiks were confounded by the Editor of the Ancient Scotiſh Poems, 1786:—"Alexander Pennecuik," ſays he, "wrote a few Scotiſh poems of no

## HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF MUSIC IN ENGLAND, DURING THE PRESENT CENTURY.

*(Concluded from our laſt, p. 362.)*

IN 1769, Guadagni made a great figure. He had been in this country early in life, as ſerious man in a burletta troop of ſingers. His voice was then a full, and well-toned counter-tenor; but he ſung wildly and careleſsly. The excellence of his voice, however, attracted the notice of Handel, who aſſigned him the parts in his oratorios, the Meſſiah and Samſon, which had been originally compoſed for Mrs Cibber. He quitted London for the firſt time about 1753. The higheſt expectations of his abilities were raiſed by fame, before his ſecond arrival at the time of which we treat. As an actor, he ſeems to have had no equal on any ſtage in Europe. His figure was uncommonly elegant and noble; his countenance replete with beauty, intelligence, and dignity; his attitudes were full of grace and propriety. Thoſe who remembered his voice when formerly in England, were now diſappointed: it was comparatively thin and feeble; he had now changed it to a ſoprano, and extended its compaſs from ſix or ſeven notes to fourteen or fifteen. The muſic he ſung was the moſt ſimple imaginable; a few notes with frequent pauſes, and opportunities of being liberated from the compoſer and the band, were all he required. In theſe effuſions, ſeemingly extemporaneous, he diſplayed the native power of melody unaided by harmony, or even by uniſonous accompaniment: the pleaſure he communicated proceeded principally from his artful manner of diminiſhing the tones of his voice, like the dying notes of the Æolian harp. Moſt other ſingers affect a ſwell; but Guadagni, after beginning a note with force, attenuated it ſo delicately, that it poſſeſſed all the effect of extreme diſtance. During the ſeaſon 1770 and 1771, Tenducci was the immediate ſucceſſor of Guadagni. This performer, who appeared in England firſt only as a ſinger of the ſecond or third claſs, was, during his reſidence in Scotland and Ireland, ſo much improved as to be well received as firſt man, not only on the ſtage of London, but in all the great theatres of Italy.

It was during this period that dancing ſeemed firſt to gain the aſcendant over muſic by the ſuperior talents of Mademoiſelle Heinel, whoſe grace and execution were ſo perfect as to eclipſe all other excellence.

In the firſt opera performed in the ſeaſon 1773, appeared Miſs Cecilia Davies, known in Italy by the name of L'Ingleſina. Miſs Davies had the honour of being the firſt Engliſh woman who had ever been thought worthy of ſinging on any ſtage in Italy. She even performed with *eclat* the principal female characters on many of the great theatres of that country. Gabrielli only on the continent was ſaid to ſurpaſs her. Her voice, tho' not of great volume, was clear and perfectly in tune; her ſhake was open and diſtinct, without the ſluggiſhneſs of the French cadence. The flexibility

no value, publiſhed with his Account of Tweedale. He is ſaid to have given Ramſay the Plot of the Gentle Shepherd." The ſaid Editor ſeems not to have known "the famous Pennecuik, whoſe undoubted rivality diſproves the unauthorized aſſertion, that he gave Ramſay the plot of the Gentle Shepherd." Alexander Pennecuick, the rival of Ramſay, was buried in the Greyfriars church-yard, on the 28th of November 1730.—[Record of Mortality.] He is called on the Regiſter, "Alexander Pencook, merchant;" as Ramſay was alſo called by it, merchant, becauſe he was a bookſeller.

bility of her throat rendered her execution equal to the moſt rapid diviſions.

The ſeaſon 1775 and 1776 was rendered memorable by the arrival of the celebrated Catarina Gabrielli, ſtyled early in life *La Cuochetina*, from being the daughter of a cardinal's cook at Rome. She had, however, in her countenance and deportment, no indications of low birth. Her manner and appearance depicted dignity and grace. So great was her reputation before her arrival in England for ſinging and for caprice, that the public, expecting perhaps in both too much, were unwilling to allow her due praiſe for her performance, and were apt to aſcribe every thing ſhe did to pride and inſolence. Her voice, though exquiſite, was not very powerful. Her chief excellence having been the neatneſs and rapidity of her execution, the ſurpriſe of the public muſt have been much diminiſhed after hearing Miſs Davies, who ſung many of the ſame ſongs in the ſame ſtyle, and with a neatneſs ſo nearly equal, that common hearers could diſtinguiſh no difference. The diſtinguiſhing critic, however, might have diſcovered a ſuperior ſweetneſs in the tone of Gabrielli's voice, an elegance in the finiſhing of her muſical periods or paſſages, an accent and preciſion in diviſions, ſuperior not only to Miſs Davies, but to every other ſinger of her time.

About the time of which we have been treating, the proprietors of the Pantheon in Oxford-ſtreet ventured to engage Agujari, at the enormous ſalary of 100l. *per* night, for ſinging *two ſongs* only! She was a truly wonderful performer. The lower part of her voice was full, round, and of excellent quality; its compaſs amazing. She had two octaves of fair natural voice, from A in the fifth line on the baſs to A on the ſixth line on the treble, and beyond that in *alt*, ſhe had in early youth more than another octave. She has been heard to aſcend to B b in *altiſſimo*. Her ſhake was open and perfect; her intonation true; her execution marked and rapid; the ſtyle of her ſinging in the natural compaſs of her voice, grand and majeſtic.

In 1776, arrived Anna Pozzi, as ſucceſſor to Gabrielli. She poſſeſſed a voice clear, ſweet, and powerful; but her inexperience, both as an actreſs and a ſinger, produced a contraſt very unfavourable to her when compared with ſo celebrated a performer as Gabrielli. Since that time, however, Pozzi, with more ſtudy and knowledge, has become one of the beſt and moſt admired female ſingers in Italy.

After the departure of Agujari, for the ſecond and laſt time, the managers of the Pantheon engaged Georgi, as her ſucceſſor. Her voice was exquiſitely fine, but totally uncultivated. She went to Italy again, where ſhe was employed as the firſt woman.

During the ſeaſons 1777 and 1778, the principal ſingers at the opera in London, were Frandeſco Roncaglia and Franceſca Danze, afterward madame Le Brun. Roncaglia poſſeſſed a ſweet-toned voice; but of the three great requiſites of a complete ſtage-ſinger, pathos, grace, and execution, which the Italians call *cantabile*, *grazioſo* and *bravura*, he could lay claim only to the ſecond. His voice when confined to a room, leaves nothing to wiſh for. Danze had a voice well in tune, a good ſhake, great execution, prodigious compaſs, with great knowledge of muſic; yet the pleaſure her performance imparted was not equal to theſe accompliſhments: but her object was not ſo much pathos and grace, as to ſurprize by the imitation of the tone and difficulties of inſtruments.

This year, Pacchierotti appeared in London, whither his high reputation had penetrated long before. The natural

natural tone of his voice was intereſting, ſweet, and pathetic. His compaſs was very great. He poſſeſſed an unbounded fancy, and the power not only of executing the moſt difficult and refined paſſages, but of inventing embelliſhment entirely new. Ferdinando Bertoni, a well-known compoſer, came along with Pacchierotti to Britain.

During the laſt fifteen years, *dancing* has become an important branch of the amuſements of the opera-houſe. Mademoiſelle Heinel, young Veſtris, and Mademoiſelle Baccelli had, during ſome years, delighted the audience at the opera; but on the arrival of Veſtris the elder, pleaſure was exchanged for ecſtaſy. In the year 1781, Pacchierotti had by this time been ſo frequently heard, that his ſinging was not an impediment to converſation; but while the elder Veſtris was on the ſtage, not a breathing was to be heard. Thoſe lovers of muſic who talked the loudeſt while Pacchierotti ſung, were in agonies of terror leſt the graceful movements of Veſtris *le dieu de la dance*, ſhould be diſturbed by audible approbation. Since that time, the moſt mute and reſpectful attention has been paid to the manly grace of Le Picque, and the light fantaſtic toe of the younger Veſtris, to the Roſſis, the Theodores, the Coulons, and the Hilliſbergs; while the ſlighted ſingers have been diſturbed, not by the voice of applauſe, but the clamour of inattention.

The year 1784, was rendered a memorable era in the annals of muſic, by the ſplendid and magnificent manner in which the birth and genius of Handel, were celebrated in Weſtminſter-abbey and the Pantheon, by five performances of pieces ſelected from his own works, and executed by a band of more than five hundred voices and inſtruments, in the preſence and under the immediate auſpices of their majeſties and the firſt perſonages of the kingdom. The commemoration of Handel has been ſince repeated three times, but the frequent repetition was at length found to damp the curioſity and intereſt it originally created, and it will probably not be repeated again upon the ſame grand ſcale until peace ſhall arrive. It may be neceſſary to mention, however, that in 1785, the band conſiſted of 616 performers; in 1786, of 741; and in 1787, of 806.

The year 1784, is diſtinguiſhed alſo by the arrival of Madame Mara, whoſe performance in the commemoration of Handel, in Weſtminſter-abbey, inſpired an audience of 3000 of the firſt people of the kingdom, not only with pleaſure, but with ecſtacy and rapture. She has ſince taken up her reſidence in this kingdom, and is the leading ſinger at moſt concerts, oratorios, and muſic-meetings, and has preſerved her popularity rather better than her temper, which laſt defect has brought her ſometimes from Weſtminſter-abbey to Weſtminſter hall.

In 1786, arrived Rubinelli. His voice was a true and full contralto from C in the middle of the ſcale to the octave above. His ſtyle was grand, and his execution neat and diſtinct; his taſte and embelliſhments new, ſelect, and maſterly.

In 1788, a new dance, compoſed by the celebrated M. Noverre, called Cupid and Pſyche, was exhibited, and produced an effect ſo uncommon as to deſerve notice. So great was the pleaſure it afforded to the ſpectators, that Noverre was unanimouſly brought on the ſtage, and crowned with laurel by the principal performers. This, though common in France, was a new mark of approbation in England. The ſame year arrived Marcheſi, a ſinger, whoſe talents have been the ſubject of praiſe and admiration on every theatre of Europe. His ſtyle of ſinging was not only elegant and refined in an uncommon degree,

gree, but often grand and full of dignity, particularly in his recitative and occaſional low notes. His variety of embelliſhment and facility of running extempore diviſions were wonderful. Many of his graces were elegant and of his own invention.

Beſide the opera-ſingers mentioned, and to whom Banti, the preſent much-admired ſinger, is to be added, our theatres and public gardens have exhibited ſingers of conſiderable merit, in the courſe of this, now expiring century. In 1730, Miſs Rafter, afterward the celebrated Mrs Clive, firſt appeared on the ſtage at Drury-lane, as a ſinger. The ſame year introduced Miſs Cecilia Young, afterward the wife of Dr Arne. Her ſtyle of ſinging was infinitely ſuperior to that of any other Engliſhwoman of her time. In 1736, Mrs Cibber, who had captivated every hearer of ſenſibility by her native ſweetneſs of voice and powers of expreſſion as a ſinger, made her firſt attempt as a tragic actreſs. The ſame year, Beard became a favourite ſinger at Covent-garden. At this time, Miſs Young, afterward Mrs Arne, and her two ſiſters Iſabella and Eſther, were the favourite Engliſh female ſingers.

In 1738, was inſtituted the fund for the ſupport of decayed muſicians and their families. In 1745, Mr Tyers, proprietor of Vauxhall-gardens, firſt added vocal muſic to the other entertainments of that place. A ſhort time before, Ranelagh had become a place of public amuſement. In 1740, arrived Giardini, whoſe great taſte, hand, and ſtyle in playing on the violin, procured him univerſal admiration. A few years after his arrival he formed a morning *academia*, or concert, at his houſe, compoſed chiefly of his ſcholars. About this time, Martini and Aviſon were eminent compoſers.

Of nearly 150 muſical pieces brought on our national theatres, within theſe forty years, thirty of them at leaſt were ſet by Arne. The ſtyle of this compoſer, if analyzed, would perhaps appear to be neither Italian nor Engliſh; but an agreeable mixture of both, and Scotch.—The late earl of Kelly, who died but a few years ago, deſerves particular notice, as poſſeſſed of a very eminent degree of muſical ſcience, far ſuperior to other *dilettanti*, and perhaps not inferior to any profeſſor of his time. There was no part of theoretical or practical muſic, in which he was not thoroughly verſed; he poſſeſſed a ſtrength of hand on the violin, and a genius for compoſition, with which few profeſſors are gifted.

Charles Frederick Abel was an admirable muſician; his performance on the *viol da gamba* was in every particular complete and perfect. He had a hand which no difficulties could embarraſs; a taſte the moſt refined and delicate; a judgment ſo correct nnd certain as never to permit a ſingle note to eſcape him without meaning. His compoſitions were eaſy and elegantly ſimple. In writing and playing an *adagio*, he was ſuperior to all praiſe; the moſt pleaſing yet learned modulation, the richeſt harmony, the moſt elegant and poliſhed melody, were all expreſſed with the moſt exquiſite feeling, taſte, and ſcience. His manner of playing an *adagio* ſoon became the model of imitation, for all our young performers on bowed inſtruments. Barthelemon, Cervetto, Cramer, and Croſdill, may in this reſpect be ranked as of his ſchool. All lovers of muſic muſt have lamented that Abel in youth had not attached himſelf to an inſtrument more worthy of his genius, taſte, and learning, than the *viol da gamba*, that remnant of the old cheſt of viols, which during the laſt century was a neceſſary appendage of a nobleman's or gentleman's family throughout Europe, previous to the admiſſion of violins, tenors, and baſes, in private houſes or public concerts. Since the death

of

of the late elector of Bavaria, who was, next to Abel, the beſt performer of the *viol da gamba* in Europe, the inſtrument ſeems quite laid aſide. It was uſed longer in Germany than elſewhere; but the place of *gambiſt* ſeems now as much ſuppreſſed in the chapels of German princes as that of *lutaniſts*.—The celebrated performer on the violin, Lolle, came to England in 1785. Such was his caprice, that he was ſeldom heard; and ſo eccentric was his ſtyle and compoſition, that by many he was regarded as a madman. He was, however, during his lucid intervals, a very great and expreſſive performer in the ſerious ſtyle.

Mrs Billington, after diſtinguiſhing herſelf in childhood, as a neat and expreſſive performer on the piano-forte, appeared all at once, in 1786, as a ſweet and captivating ſinger. In emulation of Mara, and other great bravura ſingers, ſhe at firſt too frequently attempted paſſages of difficulty; ſhe improved, however, afterward ſo greatly, that no ſong ſeems too high, or too rapid for her execution. The natural tone of her voice is ſo exquiſitely ſweet, her knowledge of muſic ſo conſiderable, her ſhake ſo true, her cloſes and embelliſhments ſo various, her expreſſions ſo graceful, that envy only, or apathy, could hear her without delight. Some years ago ſhe was engaged as a performer and ſinger at one of our theatres. In eſtabliſhed pieces, ſhe afforded great delight, but new operas were compoſed for her of materials ſo ſtupid and trifling, that even her talents could not ſave them from the contempt of the audience. She has ſince reſided abroad, and we underſtand, her voice and manner are greatly improved. An imprudent marriage, contracted abroad, on the death of Mr Billington, ſeems to detain her from her own country. It has been ſaid that liberal offers have been made to her by the managers of the opera, but that ſhe will not appear as *ſecond* to Banti.

To enumerate the many vocal and inſtrumental performers of merit, which our theatres and concerts have lately produced, would be needleſs, and perhaps invidious. Upon the whole, the preſent century may be conſidered as the *age of muſic* in this country. Without poſſeſſing a muſic of our own, we have become proficients in the muſic of other nations, and have induced an univerſal taſte for it.

Muſic is now as regular a branch of, at leaſt *female*, education, as any other neceſſary qualification. This may, and has produced, pretenders, but at the ſame time has produced an infinite number of private performers of very conſiderable merit. That a taſte for muſic is natural in this country, appears from many circumſtances; but more particularly from the vaſt number of excellent military bands, which have been brought together in the courſe of this war, from the lower orders of the people, not only for the regular army, but for the numerous regiments of militia, and volunteer corps. This appears to us a very ſtriking circumſtance. Whether in education there be no danger in giving too much encouragement to a muſical taſte, whether it may not become an uſeleſs buſineſs inſtead of a temporary pleaſure? are queſtions which are left to the conſideration of our readers.

*FOR THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.*

## OBSERVATIONS ON THE CHARACTER AND WRITINGS OF ROBERT BURNS.

"Rear high thy bleak majeſtic hills,
Thy ſhelter'd vallies proudly ſpread,
And *Scotia* pour thy thouſand rills,
And wave thy heaths with bloſſoms red;

> But ah! what poet now ſhall tread
> Thy airy heights, thy woodland reign,
> Since he, the ſweeteſt bard, is dead,
> That ever breath'd the ſoothing ſtrain?
> With ſtepdame eye, and frown ſevere,
> His hapleſs youth why didſt thou view?
> For all thy joys to him were dear,
> And all his vows to thee were due.
>
> MR ROSCOE'S *Poem to the Memory of* BURNS.

THE works of Robert Burns, lately preſented to the world, poſſeſs a very ſuperior claim to the attention of the public;—particularly of this country, which has ſo juſtly ranked him among the moſt eminent of her Sons of Song,—which has ſo long been delighted by his native melody,—and which has ſo much reaſon to be proud of the admirable genius of this exquiſite poet. Veneration for his memory, reſpect for his abilities, and attachment to his writings, frequently approximating to enthuſiaſm, have induced me to ſubmit to the conſideration of the readers of the Edinburgh Magazine, a few obſervations upon the late edition of his works, the manner in which it has been executed, and the additional poetical effuſions which are now uſhered into the republic of literature. Dr. Currie of Liverpool, a gentleman of reſpectability, has performed the office of Editor, and conſequently aſſumed a ſituation of conſiderable difficulty, and material importance; where he is equally expoſed to the cenſures of the learned, the attacks of the ignorant, and the miſrepreſentations of malevolence; but a candid and liberal critic will judge favourably of his performance, from a conſideration of his motives and approbation of his intentions.

The Life of the Poet is compiled from letters, large excerpts of which are often introduced, accompanied with remarks of the Editor. It is conceived that an accurate, connected, and more intereſting narrative of the Life of Burns might have been eaſily formed from the materials in Dr Currie's poſſeſſion, interſperſed with quotations from his Poetry, tending to illuſtrate his character,—to elucidate his conduct, to point out the ſenſibility of his heart,—and to increaſe his eſtimation in the eyes of the world, both as a man of feeling, and as a favourite of the muſes. An excellent, but conciſe example of this kind, is exhibited in the elegant ſketch extracted from the Dumfries Journal, and the Editor might have printed the letters which he imagined to be valuable, as an Appendix or Supplement to the Biography.

Even in the manner in which the Life of Burns is offered to the public, there is much intereſting intelligence, and many curious traits of character, which appear highly deſerving of attention, and in ſome inſtances the ſtyle approaches to that degree of eloquence and animation which is ſuited to the ſubject.

Robert Burns was born in the year 1758, on the banks of Doon, within two miles of "Auld Ayr;—

> "Wham neer a town ſurpaſſes,
> "For honeſt men and bonny laſſes,"

and within a few hundred yards of "Alloway's haunted Kirk," which, in defiance of its ruinous condition, of the innovations made by the mouldering hand of time, and of the blaſts which, ſweeping down the hills of Carrick, threaten its tottering walls with inſtant deſtruction, is rendered immortal by the admirable and truly poetical Tale of "Tam o'Shan-"ter."

Early in youth he complained of a conſtitutional hypochondriaciſm, which

which embittered moments that would otherwise have been devoted to innocent festivity, which shadowed with gloomy despondence a considerable period of his existence; which induced him, at the age of 23, in a strongly expressive letter to his father, (a respectable and worthy, but unfortunate man,) to declare his weariness of life; and which occasioned many errors in his future conduct, by forcing him to seek refuge from the keenness of his feelings in company that he should have avoided, to indulge in excesses which he detested, and to plunge into the pollution of inebriation, "over which (Dr Currie "observes) humanity and delicacy "draw the veil."—Indeed the complaint of "melancholy," or "low "spirits," appears to be the general attendant of men of genius; it is perhaps in some measure occasioned by that exquisite sensibility which proceeds from refined taste, from the cultivation of literary talents,—from cherishing superior sentiment, and acquiring information far beyond the ideas or mental powers of the great majority of mankind.

"Dearly bought the hidden treasure
Finer feelings can bestow,
Chords that vibrate sweetest pleasure,
Thrill the deepest notes of woe."
(*Address to* Mrs Dunlop, Vol. 4.)

This complaint induced him to retire from his companions, to indulge in solitary walks, and to bury himself in the recesses of his native woods, —or "to ascend some eminence "during the agitations of nature, "to stride along its summit while the "lightening flashed around him, and "amidst the howlings of the tempest "to apostrophise the spirit of the "storm."

The *sweet passion of love* had a still more powerful effect on the bard;—his susceptibility of the "softer "flame," which animates the most delicate nerves of the human frame, and thrills the heart with ineffable sensation, was early remarked; and his brother Gilbert mentions, that, "in his love affairs, the agitation of "his mind and body exceeded any "thing of the kind I ever knew in "real life."—The first circumstance which roused his *vis poetica*, induced him to string his lyre, and taught him to warble *wood notes wild*, at the age of fifteen, is extremely interesting, on account of the *naivete*, which (in the letter to Dr Moore,) distinguishes the following description of his harvest partner; and also, on account of the charming picture it affords of rural simplicity, natural tenderness, and youthful affection:—"She was a bonnie, sweet, sonsie "lass. In short, she altogether, un-"wittingly to herself, initiated me in "that delicious passion, which, in spite "of acid disappointment, ginhorse "prudence, and lukewarm philoso-"phy, I hold to be *the first of human* "*joys*, our *dearest blessing* here below. "Indeed, I did not know myself "why I liked so much to loiter be-"hind with her, when returning in "the evening from our labours; why "the tones of her voice, made my "heart strings thrill, like an Æolian "harp; and particularly, why my "pulse beat such a furious ratan, "when I looked and fingered over "her little hand, to pick out the "cruel nettle stings and thistles?"—This attachment was the primary reason of his wooing the muses, as his first solicitations to these delightful deities, were for words to a favourite tune of his little mistress;—and amidst the various *effects* that succeeded his successful application, he never lost recollection of the original *cause*, as is beautifully expressed in one of his latest productions,

"What is life when wanting love;
*Night* without a *morning*;
*Love's* the *cloudless summer sun*,
Nature gay adorning."—

To the skill, assiduity, and attention of Mr Murdoch, a petty country

ſchoolmaſter, afterwards teacher of Engliſh at Ayr, Burns was indebted, for the little portion of learning, which is diſplayed in ſome of his firſt poems; and the meritorious conduct of this gentleman, in foſtering and improving the *ploughboy's* inclination to ſtudy, deſerves the gratitude of ſociety.

An ardent and certainly praiſe-worthy deſire of diſtinguiſhing himſelf, may be marked as one of the moſt characteriſtic lineaments of the poet's mind, which is viſible in his writings, which ſtimulated his genius, and in early years induced him to inſtitute a debating ſociety, which he moſt correctly judged to be a proper place, for diſplaying his *then* almoſt latent capacity, increaſing his information, and extending his fame. Indeed, ſocieties of this nature are admirably calculated to rouſe emulation, exhibit eminence of ability, and to elevate young men of ſuperior talents, to their proper ſtation, above the rank of ordinary minds.

The circumſtances which introduced him to public notice, procured him the patronage of diſtinguiſhed perſons, enabled him to augment his knowledge and correct his taſte, and raiſed him from the obſcurity of a peaſant's lot, to the celebrity of genius, and the enjoyment of fame, are related by Dr Currie with fidelity and accuracy, and cannot with propriety be enumerated, or detailed here; but the account given by profeſſor Stewart is too intereſting to be omitted, eſpecially as it is highly honourable to Burns. "The attentions he received during his ſtay in "town, from all ranks and deſcriptions "of perſons, were ſuch as would have "turned any head but his own. I cannot ſay that I could perceive any unfavourable effect that they left on "his mind. He retained the ſame ſimplicity of manners and appearance, "which had ſtruck me ſo forcibly when "I firſt ſaw him in the country, nor "did he ſeem to feel any additional "ſelf importance from the number and "rank of his new acquaintance." It muſt appear diſhonourable to Scotland, and diſgraceful to the "number and rank of his new acquaintance," that Burns was never placed in a ſituation where he might have enjoyed the independence ſo dear to his heart,—cultivated an imagination, which many eminent literary characters declare to have ſhone with more brilliancy in an hour's converſation, than even in his writings,—and tuned his lyre, without being ſubjected to the authority of excife, to the caprice of ſuperior officers, to the pinings of penury, and the graſp of indigence. A ſtranger will be apt to imagine, that there is a great and melancholy deficiency of judgement, of diſcernment, and of generoſity, in the ariſtocracy of Scotland, when ſuch a man as Burns was permitted to fill a ſubordinate ſtation in the excife, in a ſmall provincial town, where he languiſhed in deſpondency, during many years of the prime of exiſtence,—where the promiſing and beautiful buds of fancy were chilled, by the blaſt of adverſity,—where the vigorous growth of his genius was ſtunted by the peſtilential vapours of official power, and where deſpair, diſappointment, and conſtitutional melancholy, compelled him to drink deep of the ſeductive cup of intoxication, to conſign to diſgraceful oblivion the anguiſh of the moment, and in the arms of feſtivity to bid defiance to the cares of the world. Yet the following paſſage, in a letter of Gilbert Burns, proves that our poet had naturally no inclination for diſſipation. "I do not recollect, till towards the end of his commencing author, (when his growing celebrity occaſioned his being often in company,) to have ever ſeen him intoxicated, nor was he at all given to drinking."

At the commencement of the French revolution, Burns unfortunately

nately expreſſed his opinion of that event, with the generous exultation of a man, who rejoices at the emancipation of twenty-five millions of his fellow-creatures from the bonds of ignorance, of ſuperſtition, and of deſpotiſm; and although his ſentiments materially changed, when he perceived the ſun of liberty ſhaded by the clouds of anarchy, cruelty, and deſtruction; yet ſome deſpicable informer perſuaded the Commiſſion of Exciſe to direct an enquiry into his conduct: the reſult, however, was favourable; he defended himſelf with ability and eloquence; his character was vindicated from impropriety; but the indignant ſpirit of Burns was deeply inſulted; he found his ſituation and means of ſupport precarious; his exertions were depreſſed; his feelings were embittered; his health was declining; in his own language, his eyes "were cloſed in miſery, and opened without hope;" he only "knew exiſtence by the preſſure of the heavy hand of ſickneſs, and counted time by the repercuſſions of pain;" he became ſupremely miſerable, until death relieved him from ſorrow and ſuffering.—

"Such Alcon fell, in meagre want forlorn;
Where were ye then, ye powerful patrons, where?
Would ye the purple ſhould your limbs adorn,
Go, waſh the conſcious blemiſh with a tear." SHENSTONE.

A letter to Mr Thomſon (editor of an elegant ſelection of Scottiſh ſongs,) demands notice here: it was written only a few days before the poet's death, and it points out the miſery of his ſituation: "After all my boaſted independence, curſt neceſſity compels me to implore you for five pounds. A cruel haberdaſher, to whom I owe an accompt, taking it into his head *that I am dying*, has commenced a proceſs, and will *infallibly put me into jail.* Forgive this earneſtneſs, but the horrors of a jail have made me half diſtracted." I preſume not to cenſure the meaſures adopted by the creditor; yet if that ſenſibility, which teaches the heart to melt at another's woe, to ſympathize with the victim of unmerited misfortune, and to endeavour to alleviate the anguiſh of a death-bed,—were to render every day replete with miſery, and every night with ſorrow, I would ſtill thank my God, that I did not poſſeſs the feelings of this haberdaſher.

After having conducted the poet (with a ſedulous attention, *nothing to extenuate, nor ſet down aught in malice,*) to the termination of his earthly career,—the bourne "from whence no traveller returns,"—where the pomp of power, the pride of authority, and the pageantry of grandeur, ſink into their original inſignificancy, and are "cramm'd into a ſpace we bluſh to name;" I ſhall requeſt of thoſe who may peruſe theſe pages, to *judge as they would be judged*, of the merits, the conduct, and the character of Burns; and if his excellencies are juſtly appreciated, and his failings fairly inveſtigated, he muſt riſe high in eſtimation and celebrity.

It is an incontrovertible, and to a reflective mind a melancholy and diſagreeable truth, that men of the moſt brilliant abilities, extenſive information, profound erudition, and ſuperior genius, are often, very often, unfortunate, unhappy, and unnoticed; pining under the neglect of an avaricious and indiſcriminating world, expoſed to the ſneers of opulence, the contempt of the *noble*, and the inſolence of "the mighty ones of the earth;" cruſhed by the leaden preſſure of poverty, agoniſed by the keenneſs of ſentiment, frequently retiring, by a voluntary death, from the frowns of fortune, and rejoicing to think that it is "*the great birth-right of mankind to die.*"

The life of Burns, the recollection of

of his mental qualifications, and the conſideration of his fate, forcibly excite very mortifying ideas. What is man, that he ſhould aſſume authority over the animal and vegetable creation, that lightening ſhould gleam in his eye, arrogance dwell in his heart, and terror be impreſſed by the tones of his voice? Is he not the "child of miſery, baptiſed in tears," born amid ſcreams of anguiſh, and pangs of convulſion; helpleſs and feeble in infancy; raſh and preſumptuous in maturity; imbecil and wretched in the decline of life; every pleaſure attended by pain; every enjoyment ſucceeded by ſorrow, every exertion followed by laſſitude; and every augmentation of knowledge, encreaſing his diſappointments, adding poignancy to his diſtreſſes, multiplying his wiſhes, and rendering him unfit for this "little ſcene of things?" That the ſentiments of Burns were ſimilar to theſe, is evident from one of his letters, in which he expreſſively remarks, "After all that has been ſaid on the other ſide of the queſtion, man is by no means a happy creature: I do not ſpeak of the ſelected few, favoured by partial heaven, whoſe ſouls are tuned to gladneſs, amid riches and honours, and prudence and wiſdom; I ſpeak of the neglected many, whoſe nerves, whoſe ſinews, whoſe days, are ſold to the minions of fortune." Let the young and the gay, attending to this picture, which is copied from numerous examples, and founded in painful experience, learn the neceſſity of humility and meekneſs of ſpirit: let the children of ſenſibility weep over it, for it is perhaps a faithful delineation of their own feelings: let the narrow-minded and cold-hearted paſs it with neglect, as being above their comprehenſion, and unſuited to their ideas: and let the generous reader drop a tear to the memory of Burns, while he peruſes this beautifully analagous paſſage in the bard's epitaph:

"Is there a man whoſe judgment clear
Can others teach the courſe to ſteer,
Yet runs himſelf life's mad career
Wild as the wave?
Here pauſe, and thro' the ſtarting tear
Survey this grave.

The poor inhabitant below,
Was quick to learn, and wiſe to know,
And keenly felt the friendly glow,
And ſoſter flame,
But thoughtleſs follies laid him low,
And ſoil'd his name."

Previous to concluding this ſketch, I muſt obſerve, that the ſongs compoſed for the muſical publication of Mr Thomſon are peculiarly deſerving of admiration. How artleſsly pathetic is the following verſe!

"Bonnie wee thing, cannie wee thing,
Lovely wee thing, was thou mine,
I wad wear thee in my boſom,
Leſt my jewel I ſhould tine.
Wiſtfully I look and languiſh,
In that bounie face o' thine,
And my heart it ſtouns wi' anguiſh
Leſt my wee thing be na' mine.

But there is a ſtill ſuperior expreſſion in another ſonnet, which ſurpaſſes all praiſe, which conveys the moſt exquiſitely tender compliment I ever remember to have ſeen, and which admirably marks the delicacy of the poet's mind, contained in the beautiful lines,

"Thou art *ſweet* as the *ſmile* when *fond lovers meet*;
And *ſoft* as their *parting tear*, Jeſſy."

At a future period, when time and opportunity permit, I ſhall perhaps offer a few criticiſms upon the *alterations* made by Mr George Thomſon on the productions which he received from Burns; and alſo upon the *diſapprobation* expreſſed by Dr Currie of the uſage of *Scots words and Scots phraſes*, in ſongs, ballads, or any poetical performances; and in the meantime, I may be allowed to remark, that the propriety of preſerving a "ſprinkling," of the ancient language of Caledonia, cannot be more

more happily examplified, or the opinions of the editor more ably refuted, than by the delightful ſimplicity of the firſt verſe in the beautiful air of "Morag."

"O wha is ſhe that *lo'es* me,
And has my heart a keeping?
O ſweet is ſhe that *lo'es* me,
As dews o' ſimmer weeping."

Upon the whole, the works of Robert Burns will form a valuable addition to every library; his poetry muſt be eſteemed as long as admiration of real genius ſubſiſts; his letters diſplay amiable ſenſibility and liberal ſentiment; and although his biographer has not received unqualified approbation, he undoubtedly merits conſiderable praiſe. I ſhall now conclude, by hoping that men of rank, ability, and opulence, will remember that the family of Burns is deſerving of patronage, that his eldeſt ſon is diſtinguiſhed by ability, and that purer luſtre would be derived from ſupporting merit, than from the moſt ſplendid quartering of a coat of arms. *D. D.*

*FOR THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.*

## REMARKS ON LOVE.

*Scribere juſſit amor,*

Love bade me write.

THE univerſal ſway of this affection over the human heart, and its powerful influence upon the happineſs of domeſtic life; the depravity and perverſion to which it has been ſo generally ſubjected; and the pernicious conſequences which, from this perverſion, have reſulted, both to individuals and communities, are circumſtances that render any attempt to vindicate, and eſtabliſh the genuine affection (however feeble that attempt may be) not altogether undeſerving the attention of the lovers of truth, and the friends of mankind.

"The real Genius of love," ſays Dr Goldſmith, "is ſurely now no more: "in every region I find enemies in "arms to oppreſs him. Avarice, in "Europe; jealouſy, in Perſia; cere"mony, in China; poverty, among "the Tartars; and luſt in Circaſſia; "are all prepared to oppoſe his pow"er." The firſt, and the laſt of theſe, Avarice and Luſt, have been the moſt formidable, and the moſt ſucceſsful pretenders. Not only have they weakened the authority, and narrowed the dominions of Love; they have uſurped his throne, aſſumed his name, and arrogated thoſe regards, which were formerly paid to the true divinity. Theſe two falſe deities ſeem to have divided between them the inhabitants of the earth. To the one, the more advanced in years have, in general, offered the moſt uniform worſhip; to the other, the youth of every clime have no leſs generally ſacrificed, with fervent adoration. A few generous and virtuous ſpirits may have nobly dared, at different periods, to expoſe the impoſtors, and even to pay their vows to the neglected power; but, both in ancient, and in modern times, the ſelfiſh, intereſted tenets of the golden idol, and the furious orgies of the libidinous demon, have deluded, diſtracted, debaſed, and rendered miſerable the majority of the human race.

"When a couple, in this iſland," to uſe the language of the writer, already quoted, "are to be married, "mutual love, or an union of minds, "is the laſt, and moſt trifling con"ſideration. If their goods and "chattels can be brought to unite; "their ſympathetic ſouls are ever "ready to guarantee the treaty. The "Gentleman's mortgaged lawn be-

comes

"comes enamoured of the Lady's "marriageable grove; the match is "ſtruck up, and both parties are "piouſly in love, according to act of "parliament." In this manner does the one idol lead his votaries, with calm, deliberate, and ſuſpicious pace, towards his ſplendid altar. There having paid their allegiance, they are introduced into the habitation of inſipidity, contention, and diſguſt. But the fiend of luſt, iſſuing from Tartarus with infernal fury, darts, into the heart of his worſhipper, thoſe raging and devouring fires, which conſume every principle of intellectual life; deface every feature of a divine image; and hurry the unhappy wretch, with fatal vehemence, "through ſhort-lived, dear-bought "pleaſures, to careleſs woes and laſt-"ing penitence."

So long, and ſo extenſively have avarice and luſt, under the name of love, engaged the obſervance and regulated the purſuits of mankind; that the greater part have now forgotten, doubted, or denied, that a purer paſſion ever exiſted. Hence the reproaches, with which, ſo often, the ſpeculative and ſedate, the narrow-minded and the timid, have branded the affection of love; and hence the indifference and contempt, with which the ſuperſtitious monaſtic, the pretended philoſopher, and the worthleſs debauchee, have preſumed to treat that connexion, which is formed under its genial influence. "Grave people," ſays Sterne, "hate love, for the name's ſake; ſelfiſh people, for their own; hypocrites, for heaven's; and all of us, both young and old, are ten times more frightened than hurt, by the very report." All this odium, ſuſpicion, and dread, may be juſtly referred to the ſordid views, and unhallowed deſire of an evil paſſion; to that falſe love, whoſe throne is luſt, or whoſe temple is gold. But the genuine affection, which it is here intended to aſcertain, and to vindicate, is of celeſtial origin; is attended with the pureſt conſequences; and is productive of exalted felicity. Far unlike to the dull formality of grovelling intereſt, to the finical impertinence of faſhionable foppery, to the frantic raptures of a diſtempered imagination, and to the furious impulſe of brutal appetite,—it has been inſpired by the Author of nature himſelf; and leads to a ſtate, which is the poſitive inſtitution of heaven.

The beſt definition, perhaps, that has been given, of this affection, "is that which may be found in the Encyclopædia Britannica." "Love is that affection, which, being compounded of animal deſire, eſteem, and benevolence, becomes the bond of attachment and union between individuals of different ſexes; and makes them feel, in the ſociety of each other, a ſpecies of happineſs which they experience no where elſe." To the firſt of theſe ingredients, however, a very inconſiderable ſhare, in the compoſition, ſhould be aſſigned. Of the two laſt it ought to be almoſt wholly formed; and thus it will be founded on the ſame principles, nearly, as friendſhip. The ſimilarity between love and friendſhip is indeed very ſtriking. The terms which expreſs them, Cicero obſerves, are nearly related to each other: "Sive amor, ſive amicitia; utrumque enim dictum eſt ab amando." "Call it either love, or friendſhip; for both are derived from loving." And were theſe etymological remarks of any importance in confirming our poſition, it might eaſily be ſhewn, that in Hebrew, (which, of all languages, is the moſt ſimple, and the moſt deſcriptive of the nature of things,) and in other oriental tongues, the ſame word denotes both love and friendſhip; and that, among the Greeks, (many of whoſe terms are pure definitions,) as well as among ſeveral modern nations, theſe two affections are, in their

their grammatical pedigree, very closely allied *. But they are related by more natural ties, and connected by a more philosophical affinity. The mind of man, rational in its nature, and, in duration, immortal as its Author, can derive happiness, worthy of itself, only from the exercise of that reason, and from the love of those objects, which can never cease to exist. All the pleasure, that it can derive from material objects, so changeable, and so destructible, must ever be transient, unsatisfying, and uncertain. The intellectual beauties of the soul, good nature, and good sense; the qualifications of the mind, and the virtues of the heart, are the only objects, that are capable of inspiring the affection of love, in all its purity, felicity, and permanence. And would any one desire to have a mistress that shall be for ever fair, let him have one that's good; for,

Woman's beauty flies,
Brush'd by the hand of sorrow or mischance:
Escapes it there? Age will not let it pass,
It falls a victim to the shafts of time;
And there is nothing permanent on earth,
But goodness.

*Tragedy of* Sir Thos. More.

The animal desire, mentioned in the definition, and which often forms so conspicuous a feature in the descriptions and paintings of this passion, should be regarded as a more gross constituent, partially introduced by the material part of our frame, as a mere natural instinct, admitted into the composition of this affection, because necessary, like those of hunger and thirst, for the existence of man in his present state. In forming the simple, and uncorrupted bond of love, it is but an inferior and feeble agent. Of the other two principles, benevolence and esteem, these can never be too much employed; and, in proportion to the strength of these, will uniformly be the duration and happiness of the attachment. But of this lower desire, there can scarcely ever be too little. It has no agency in connecting souls; in no case is its efficacy, as a bond of union, powerful; and it soon ceases to endear any object.

Beauty soon grows familiar to the lover;
Fades in his eye, and palls upon the sense;
And when once its influence is gone,

if the other principles support not the emotions formerly excited, satiety, indifference, and aversion invariably

* Though this reasoning, from etymology, be certainly more fanciful than convincing; yet, as the coincidence of phraseology, in this instance, is rather a curious and striking circumstance, it may not be altogether unacceptable to state it somewhat more fully and explicitly. It is evident, that the following statement might be much enlarged by a more extensive acquaintance with languages.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hebrew. | Rehim, | one who loves, as a parent, friend, or lover. |
| | Roé, | a friend; Roié, a mistress. |
| | Dood, | a friend; and also, a lover. |
| Persic. | Ashtai, | friendship; and also, love. |
| | Dost, | a friend; and also, a lover, a mistress. |
| | Yar, | a friend; and also, a lover, a mistress. |
| Of Arabic origin. | Muhbut, | friendship; and also, love. |
| | Muhbub. | a friend; and also, a mistress. |
| | Mashuk, | a friend; and also, a lover. |
| Greek. | φιλια, | friendship. |
| | φιλος, | a friend; φιλη a mistress, } from φιλεω, to love, as a friend, or lover. |
| | Ἑταιρος, | a friend; Ἑταιρη a mistress. |
| Latin. | Amicitia, | friendship; amor, love; both from amo, to love. |
| Italian. | Amicizia, | friendship; amore, love; both from amare, to love. |
| French. | Ami, | a friend; amie, a mistress. |

bly ſucceed. In the ſavage ſtate, indeed, where mind is little cultivated; and in the ſeaſon of youth, when reaſon is ſtill unimproved and unſteady, this deſire has generally a very conſiderable influence; but, in theſe caſes, the connections which it forms, are often, like itſelf, turbulent and ſhort-lived. The leſs, then, that this propenſity acts in framing the ties of love, the purer will be the attachment, and the more laſting the union. It has been rendered indeed, for the wiſeſt purpoſes, a ſource of utility and enjoyment. But as a motive to affection, it is in itſelf truly deſpicable; as a cementing principle, it is altogether ineffectual; and as an ultimate object, it ſhould always be overlooked.

It may be objected, perhaps, that the paſſion, which has been here deſcribed, as ſolely entitled to the name of love, is above the reach of human nature; and ſeldom, if ever, exemplified in conduct. Man is indeed very much actuated by his ſenſes; and theſe, in conjunction with paſſion, frequently over-rule the intimations of his reaſon. Evil and error have intermingled their *virus* with almoſt all his principles; and perhaps no virtuous affection can be found, in a human being, pure as it ought. It will be difficult to find modeſty, without ſome tincture of vanity; benevolence, unſtained by any ſelfiſh deſire; meekneſs, undiſturbed by any vengeful emotion; friendſhip, unconnected with any intereſted view; or love, unmingled with a conſiderable portion of animal appetite. But what is the concluſion that ſhould reaſonably be deduced from all this? Not, ſurely, that in analyſing any of theſe affections, there ſhould always be admitted, as one of its chief conſtituents, that very principle which is of a nature directly oppoſite. Not, ſurely, that virtue is partly compounded of vice, becauſe human virtue is generally ſo contaminated. Not, ſurely, that friendſhip ſhould be defined, as proceeding from ungenerous and ſordid motives, becauſe in many connections, under that deſignation, ſuch motives do actually predominate. Not, ſurely, that love is nearly allied to luſt, becauſe often tainted, in the heart of man, with ſuch a concomitant. Every virtuous and ennobling affection muſt always be exhibited, not according to human depravity, but in its own native purity; and ought to be eſtabliſhed, not upon the varying and lying maxims of the world, but upon the eternal principles of reaſon and of truth. The model muſt be rendered as perfect as poſſible, that the imitation may riſe the nearer to perfection: and, in every inſtance, it is aſſuredly more reaſonable and advantageous, that the imitation ſhould aſcend to the original, than that the original deſcend to the imitation. If the affection of love be permitted to deſcend from the temple of purity one ſingle ſtep, it will be difficult to prevent its being degraded to the loweſt ſtation. There will be no ſufficient reaſon for regulating its degree of elevation by the ſentiments of one of its votaries, rather than by thoſe of another; and every one, who has but once breathed a ſigh in its worſhip, might advance an equal claim for its being lowered to a level with his individual feelings.

But love, there can be little doubt, has often exiſted in human nature, with a very inconſiderable, with an almoſt imperceptible admixture of the deſire in queſtion. And an appeal may be made to all, who are ſenſible of the true dignity of their minds, if they have not often, when moſt under the influence of love, entirely overlooked this lower emotion; if they have not uniformly regarded their affection, as more excellent and ſtable, in proportion as they felt this ſuperiority to animal appetite; and if they have not, as invariably entertained

ed leſs pleaſing, and leſs exalted ideas of themſelves and their attachment, whenever this deſire became in the ſmalleſt degree predominant.

Love between individuals of the different ſexes, may originate, in general, from frequent intercourſe, from reciprocal obligations, from mutual indications of reſpect, from the apprehended beauty of the perſon, but primarily and principally, from the ſuppoſed perfection of the mind. This is ever the exciting cauſe: all others are but mediate inſtruments, by which it acts. There are indeed occurrences, which ſeem to militate againſt this aſſertion. There have been inſtances of the pureſt, and moſt durable attachments, having been occaſioned by a ſingle interview, nay by a ſingle glance, when the qualifications of the mind might be ſuppoſed to have had no opportunity of diſplaying themſelves. Extenſive, it is allowed, is the influence of female beauty; reſiſtleſs the impetus, with which it aſſails the youthful heart; and deep the impreſſion, which it leaves behind. This influence, however, derives all its energy from the charms of virtue; and can be ſupported ſolely by the idea of mental excellence. The brighteſt and moſt captivating features in the female form, are invariably thoſe which indicate benevolent and agreeable diſpoſitions. Miſtreſſes have been celebrated for the ſweet, the mild, the good-natured beams, which illuminated their aſpects; for the gentle and affable expreſſions, which proceeded from their lips; and for the beneficent and compaſſionate deeds, which were performed by their hands. To cauſes of that nature, enamoured youths, univerſally almoſt, attribute their love; and in counterfeiting the ſemblance of theſe diſpoſitions, if not in acquiring them, the arts of the fair are moſt frequently employed. For no female ever attempted to gain an admirer, by diſplaying any want of underſtanding, any defect of temper, any malignity of diſpoſition; and no captivated heart ever aſcribed its emotions to impreſſions of ſuch a deſcription. Now it is impoſſible to deny, that much of this intellectual beauty may be indicated by a ſingle glance; at leaſt, that ample materials may thus be furniſhed for the imagination of the lover. But in whatever way the affection of love may be generated, it can be nouriſhed only by the qualities of the heart and mind: when a beautiful form becomes familiar to the view, it always follows (if its poſſeſſor be not animated alſo by an amiable ſoul,) that the lover ſoon ceaſes to admire, begins gradually to diſregard, and at length even to deteſt that angel aſpect, which formerly ſubjugated all his powers, ſhould he once diſcover that it veiled the heart of a fiend. Mental charms, on the contrary, have not unfrequently, in proceſs of time, ſupplied the want of external graces, called forth the warmeſt affections, and arreſted them by a power, which time could not diminiſh, but which continued to act with a growing and unceaſing vigour.

Beauty of perſon then, may at firſt engage admiration, in as far as it indicates beauty of ſoul; but of this laſt it cannot long ſupply the place, and can never enſure the continuance of that admiration, which its blaze had attracted. But beauty of ſoul can ſupply every deficiency, and can act independently of every other aid. But when beauty of mind, and beauty of perſon are united, when the accents of kindneſs and perſuaſion proceed from thoſe lips, which rival the vermilian bloom; when the rays of benevolence enlighten that aſpect, which ſhines alſo with the beams of beauty; when the tear of compaſſion gliſtens in thoſe eyes, which ſparkle at the ſame time with the diamond's luſtre; when acts of condeſcenſion and humanity employ thoſe hands,

which emulate "the ſoftneſs of dove's down, and the hue of the winter's ſnow;" when a ſoul, ſo beauteous, is inveſted in a form ſo paſſing fair, every eye muſt admire, every mind muſt eſteem, and, in favourable circumſtances, every heart muſt love. Were the cares of our females ſteadily applied to the acquiſition of theſe excellencies combined, how reſiſtleſs and extenſive would be their ſway! how pure and exalted the emotions which they would inſpire! how bleſſed thoſe individuals whom they favoured with their ſmiles!

It may now be proper to inveſtigate the natural effects of love, when it originates from ſuch principles, and is ſupported by ſuch connections. When founded on an admiration of intellectual endowments, it muſt naturally tend to promote intellectual improvement. When directed by virtuous ſentiments, it muſt tend to advance the intereſts of virtue. When ſecured by the qualifications of mind, it muſt ſurvive all the caſualties of human life, and be laſting as theſe immortal principles which it unites. To deſire the approbation of thoſe whom we eſteem, and to imitate the actions of thoſe whom we admire, are propenſities powerfully prevalent in our nature. When excellence, in any ſhape, hath engaged the admiration and love of a human being, it muſt neceſſarily alſo induce his imitation. But when excellence of heart, or of underſtanding, exhibited in the faireſt form, and recommended by ſo many pleaſing aſſociations, interwoven in the human frame, hath inflamed the affections; and when every wiſh to be more cloſely united with it, hath been roufed; then the aim and purſuit of the ſoul will be to cultivate the ſame excellence, and to acquire ſimilar endowments. The peruſal of a ſtory, and the delineation of a character, have a greater influence upon the mind, than a mere abſtract precept; a living example before the eyes has a ſtill ſtronger influence; but an example preſented by that female in the love of whom the whole ſoul is, in a manner, wrapt up, muſt prove reſiſtleſs. For, if the heart be really touched with the admiration of virtue in the object of its affection, and every heart, that is not deſtitute of all ſenſibility, and incapable of any emotions, but thoſe of vice, muſt be ſo touched, it will forcibly ſtrike the mind upon a moment's reflection, that to pretend to the favour of one, whoſe deareſt principles, and whoſe tendereſt feelings, our thoughts and words and actions would hourly ſhock, muſt be the moſt infatuated inconſiſtency, the moſt inſenſate preſumption, the groſſeſt baſeneſs, the moſt inhuman act.

But the love, that has been deſcribed, not only operates, as a powerful incitement to improve in virtue; it impoſes alſo a reſtraint upon every irregular, and unworthy propenſity. When the warmth of youthful blood is raiſed, by the magic of conviviality to an immoderate temperature; when the clamour of paſſion drowns the voice of reaſon, and the proſpect of immediate pleaſure overpowers the remonſtrances of conſcience; in the moment of folly, when innocence and honour are ſinking in the uproar of diſſipation—in ſuch a moment, the dejected image of a beauteous, affectionate, and virtuous fair one, riſes to the imagination and checks the roving thought. She ſeems to reproach with the neglect of plighted, and the alienation of proffered affection; her ſympathizing heart is ſeen to beat with tremulous anxiety for the deluded youth; her eye to drop a tear upon his degeneracy; and her whole appearance to lament the hazardous, and diſhonourable career, in which he is borne along. Such an affecting repreſentation, conjured up by the power of love, rouſes the whole man; ſaves from infamy and vice, and reſtores to dignity and duty. The affections of youth

youth, thus collected by love as by a concentrating prism, and steadily directed towards one point, produce effects, and lead to exertions, which they never would have accomplished, when diverging in every direction and deflected by the fortuitous intervention of every polished surface.

That the author of these remarks may not appear to have been indulging a mere Utopian vision, and depicting a scene which can never be realized; the conclusions and experience of others, whose judgements, whose virtues, and whose knowledge cannot be questioned, shall now be alledged in confirmation of what he has advanced.

The following animated picture of love, and its tendency, is drawn by Dr Fordyce, in his "Sermons to young women." "Honourable love! that great preservative of purity, that powerful softner of the fierce spirit, that mighty improver of the rudest carriage, that all-subduing, yet all-exalting principle of the human breast, which humbles the proud, and bends the stubborn, yet fills with lofty conceptions, and animates with a fortitude that nothing can conquer—what shall I say more? which converts the savage into a man, and lifts the man into a hero!"

"This particular attachment," (love) says Dr. Hartley, whose acquaintance with the human mind was most intimate, and whose own sentiments display the most eminent piety and purity, "this particular attachment, when under proper restrictions and regulations, is not only within the confines of virtue; but often the parent of the most disinterested, pure, and exalted kinds of it. Were this source of the benevolent affections," he continues, "cut off, all other circumstances remaining the same, mankind would become much more selfish and malicious, much more wicked and miserable, upon the whole, than they now are."

In the papers of the Spectator, where the ruling principles of human conduct are illustrated and examined, not by the deductions of theory, but of experience and observation, the ameliorating influence of this affection, even in its disappointments, is expressly asserted and described. "Whenever I reflect on this woman," says Sir Roger, speaking of the widow, who had so tantalized him, "I do not know whether, in the main, I am the worse for having loved her. This affliction in my life has streaked all my conduct with a softness, of which I should otherwise have been incapable.—It is, perhaps, to this dear image, in my heart, owing, that I am apt to relent, that I readily forgive, and that many desirable things are grown into my temper, which I should not have arrived at by better motives, than the thought of being one day hers."

Sterne, who seems to have given every emotion its full play, never to have counteracted the genuine feelings of nature by any false refinement; and to have experienced, at times, too well the natural effects of every passion, positively declares, that he is firmly persuaded, if ever he do a mean action, it will be when he is not in love. "While this interregnum lasts," to use his own words, "I always perceive my heart locked up: I can scarce find in it to give misery a sixpence; and the moment I am rekindled, I am all generosity and goodwill again; and would do any thing in the world, either for, or with any one, if they will but satisfy me there is no sin in it."

In loving, thou dost well; in passion, not,
Wherein true love consists not. Love refines
The thoughts, and heart enlarges; hath his seat
In reason, and is judicious; is the scale,
By which, to heav'nly love, thou mayest ascend. MILTON.

If such, then, be the true principles,

pies, on which the genuine affection of love is founded, and ſuch the ſalutary effects, which it naturally tends to produce; let not the ingenuous youth ever heſitate, under the direction of reaſon, and the reſtrictions of virtue, to follow the dictates of his nature. Let not the gloom of fanaticiſm, or the forebodings of celibacy; let not the ſophiſticated inſinuations of libertiniſm, or the pretenſions of a conceited philoſophy, ever deter him from his purpoſe of duty, from the purſuit of happineſs. Let him pity every miſtaken apprehenſion, and deteſt every licentious principle. Under the guidance of Heaven, let him liſten to the unprejudiced deciſions of his mind; and what theſe inform him is worthy and right, let none perſuade him, that it is degrading and wrong.

Muſt we abandon all ſociety, and ſculk, like felons, in ſullen ſolitude; becauſe, among men, malignity and vice are ſeen predominant? Muſt we throw off all religion, becauſe ſuperſtition, *i. e.* falſe, and corrupted religion, is juſtly reprobated by the wiſe and good? Muſt we either refuſe to bind the knot of friendſhip, or haſten to diſſolve every ſuch connection; becauſe friendſhip is, too often, alas! the mere ſhade and attendant of fortune? Muſt we extirpate from our hearts every emotion of love, though implanted by the hand of Supreme Intelligence; becauſe a deſtroying dæmon, aſſuming the appellation, and counterfeiting the appearance, hath miſled the deluded minds of mortals, and deſolated the fair face of things? Such a conduct would diſplay no wiſdom, promote no virtue, ſecure no happineſs.

The concluſion, which theſe remarks are intended to eſtabliſh, is this, that the affection of love, however enfeebled by mortal frailty, and contaminated by human depravity, is pure and exalted in its origin; virtuous, in its connections and conſequences; and preparatory to the formation of an union, the happieſt, and moſt important upon earth.

Hail, wedded love! myſterious law, true ſource
Of human offſpring——
——by thee,
Founded in reaſon, loyal, juſt, and pure,
Relations dear, and all the charities
Of father, ſon, and brother, firſt were known.
Here love his *golden* ſhafts employs; here lights
His *conſtant* lamp, and waves his purple wings.— MILTON.

*Philerafius.*

## *FOR THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.*

### A VINDICATION OF NEWTON'S OPINION CONCERNING THE FIGURE OF THE EARTH, FROM THE OBJECTIONS OF HENRY B. ST. PIERRE, AUTHOR OF THE STUDIES OF NATURE.

Patient of contradiction, as a child,
Affable, humble, diffident, and mild;
Such was *Sir Iſaac*, and ſuch *Boyle* and *Locke*:
Your *Blunderer* is as ſturdy as a rock.

COWPER'S *Progreſs of Error.*

MORE than a hundred years have now elapſed, ſince the opinion of *Newton* was given to the world, enforced by the moſt ſublime geometry, and demonſtrated by the moſt unexceptionable arguments. Since that period, it has met with no oppoſition, but, like every diſcovery which is founded on truth, has gained the aſſent of ſucceeding philoſophers, and received the moſt ample confirmation from their experiments.

ments. Thoſe diſcoveries, however, which are of the greateſt importance, and thoſe opinions which are moſt confirmed by obſervation and experiment, ſome time or other, feel the attacks of malignant criticiſm, and afford a ſubject for exerciſing the talents, and gratifying the ambition of thoſe who are moſt ignorant of their nature, and who are ever ready to find fault with truths which have been long eſtabliſhed and univerſally believed.

In ſuch a manner has the opinion of *Newton* concerning the figure of the earth been treated by *M. St. Pierre*, who has not contented himſelf with advancing arguments againſt the opinion which he meant to oppoſe, but has backed theſe with the moſt malicious inſinuations againſt the characters of all thoſe men who think differently from himſelf. What reaſon he has for ſo doing will appear upon a conſideration of his arguments.

A figure is inſerted in the *Studies of Nature*, which, the author tells us, will make the miſtake of aſtronomers, concerning the figure of the earth, abundantly ſenſible. Its conſtruction is as follows: A circle is deſcribed, repreſenting the circumference of the earth, and two diameters drawn perpendicular to each other, one of which repreſents the earth's axis, and the other its equatoreal diameter. From the center of this circle are drawn two radii, one on each ſide of the polar axis, comprehending a given angle, ſuppoſe a degree; and from the ſame center are drawn other two radii, one on each ſide of the equatoreal diameter, comprehending an angle of the ſame ſize as the former, viz. a degree. Thus, ſuppoſing the earth to be an accurate ſphere, ſince, in the ſame circle, equal angles ſtand upon equal circumferences *, the arch of the meridian, intercepted between the two radii drawn toward the poles, will be exactly equal to the arch of the meridian intercepted between the two radii drawn toward the equator. But it has been found, from the meaſurements of *Maupertuis*, *Clairault*, *Bouguer* and *Condamine*, that the length of a degree of the meridian, near the equator, is leſs than the length of a degree of the meridian near the poles; therefore the earth is not an accurate ſphere. But, in order that the length of a degree of the meridian at the equator may be leſs than it is at the poles, it is neceſſary that the arch of the meridian, contained by the two radii drawn toward the poles, be raiſed above the circular arch; that is, it is neceſſary that the earth be elongated at the poles, or in other words, be a prolate ſpheroid. For if this arch at the poles, inſtead of being raiſed above the circular arch, is depreſſed below it, or if the earth be an oblate ſpheroid, then it is evident that this arch, when depreſſed, approaches nearer to the chord of the circular arch, and conſequently is leſs than the circular arch. But this circular arch at the poles was proved equal to the arch of the meridian near the equator, becauſe they ſubtend equal angles, therefore the length of a degree of the meridian near the poles is leſs than the length of a degree of the meridian near the equator; which is contrary to the ſuppoſition, conſequently the earth is not flattened, but elongated at the poles. Such is nearly the train of reaſoning which may be made out from the geometrical demonſtration of *St. Pierre*. A little reflection will convince us that it is illogical and inconcluſive. At the very beginning of the demonſtration, it is taken for granted that a degree of the meridian is contained by two lines which meet in the center of the earth, nay, through the whole of the demonſtration it is taken for granted that the earth is an accurate

* Euclid. book III. prop. 26.

curate ſphere, for the very figure is adapted to this ſuppoſition. Now, *St. Pierre* wiſhes to ſhew that the earth is not an oblate ſpheroid, and thence to infer, that it muſt be a prolate one; but ſince he takes for granted, that the earth is an accurate ſphere, or, which is the ſame thing, that the earth is not an oblate ſpheroid, the whole of his reaſon is evidently a *petitio principii*, for, in order to prove that the earth is not an oblate ſpheroid, he takes for granted that it is not an oblate ſpheroid.

But, though this be the caſe, *M. St. Pierre* has the audacity to aſk, what anſwer it is poſſible to give to the geometrical demonſtration which he has produced? and the confidence to affirm, that *Newton* himſelf would, at this day, have renounced ſuch an *erroneous opinion* as his was, though he was the firſt who broached it. But what, pray, is there in this *geometrical demonſtration*, which could have convinced *Newton*, and cauſed him to renounce his former opinion? Was he ſo ignorant of logic as to miſtake *falſe* for *true* reaſoning? a *petitio principii* for a *complete ſyllogiſm?* Having thus pointed out a logical error in the reaſoning of *St Pierre*, it may be proper to ſhew, how it reſults from the meaſurements of *Maupertuis*, *Bouguer* and *Condamine*, that the earth is flattened at the poles.

It is certain, from the laws of Hydroſtaticks, that the direction of gravity is in a line, perpendicular to the ſurface of ſtanding water; or, which is the ſame thing, perpendicular to the ſurface of the earth. If then the earth be an accurate ſphere, the right lines which mark the direction of gravity, at different places on its ſurface, will meet in its center, and a degree of the meridian will be of the ſame length at the equator, as it is at the poles. But ſince this is not the caſe, the earth muſt be either elevated or flattened at the poles. Let it firſt be ſuppoſed an oblate ſpheroid, and let us conceive it to be cut through the center by a plane, perpendicular to the equator. This ſection, from the very definition of a ſpheroid, will be an ellipſe, whoſe circumference will be a meridian. In the circumference of this ellipſe, let there be taken, near the vertex of the greater axis, two points, whoſe diſtance from each other ſhall be a certain number of equal parts; and let two lines be drawn perpendicular to the ellipſe at theſe points, which lines accordingly will repreſent the direction of gravity at theſe places.

Let other two points be taken, near the vertex of the leſſer axis, whoſe diſtance from each other ſhall be equal to the diſtance between the other two; and let perpendiculars be drawn as before. Then, ſince an ellipſe is more incurvated about the vertex of the tranſverſe, than it is about the vertex of the conjugate axis, it is manifeſt, that the two perpendiculars, drawn near the greater axis, will meet ſooner than the two perpendiculars which were drawn near the leſſer axis; and that the angle contained by the former will be greater than the angle contained by the latter*. Therefore, ſince the baſis of theſe trilineal figures are equal, or ſince the arch of the meridian, near the vertex of the greater axis, was made equal to the arch of the meridian, near the vertex of the leſſer axis, it neceſſarily follows, that the angle, contained by two lines drawn perpendicular to the extremities of an arch of the meridian, of a given length, near the vertex of the greater axis, or near the equator, will be *greater* than the angle, contained by two lines drawn perpendicular to the extremities of an arch of the meridian, of the ſame length, near the vertex of the leſſer axis, or near the poles; and converſely, that, if the angle contained by two lines drawn perpendicular

* Euclid, Book I. Prop. 21.

dicular to the extremities of an arch of the meridian, near the equator, be equal to the angle contained by two lines drawn perpendicular to the extremities of an arch of the meridian near the poles, or if each of them be a degree, then the arch of the meridian, which ſubtends the angle at the equator, will be *leſs* than the arch of the meridian near the poles; that is, the length of a degree of the meridian, near the equator, is *leſs* than the length of a degree near the poles. The ſame train of reaſoning ſhews us, that, if the earth be a prolate ſpheroid, the length of a degree of the meridian ſhould be *greater* at the equator than at the poles. But it is allowed by *St Pierre*, and all philoſophers, that the length of a degree of the meridian is *leſs* at the equator than at the poles, conſequently the earth is an oblate ſpheroid.

It is not, however, from this circumſtance, nor is it upon the faith of a *Newton*, a *Maupertuis*, a *Bouguer*, or a *Condamine*, as St Pierre inſinuates, that aſtronomers have, till this day, believed the earth to be flattened at the poles. They are poſſeſſed of arguments, too convincing, and too obvious to be rejected by thoſe who ſincerely ſearch after truth. It is known to every perſon, who pretends to be in the leaſt degree acquainted with philoſophy, that the length of a pendulum, vibrating ſeconds at the equator, is leſs than the length of a pendulum vibrating ſeconds at the poles *; from which circumſtance, every impartial enquirer would conclude, that the force of gravity was greater at the poles than at the equator †, that the poles were nearer the center of the earth than a point in the equator; and, finally, that the earth was an oblate ſpheroid. But this was an argument too ſtrong, and too palpable to the underſtandings of every reader, to be refuted, or even to be mentioned in the Studies of Nature; here there could be found no hiding place, no petitio principii, which might have afforded ſhelter from the force of truth.

There is ſtill another circumſtance, however, from which philoſophers believed the earth to be flattened at the poles, long before any degree of the meridian was meaſured, and long before any experiments were made on the lengths of pendulums, viz. from the very nature of a centrifugal force ‡; and if they had no other reaſon for their belief but this, they would, nevertheleſs, ſtand acquitted of that credulity, prejudice, and pride, with which *St Pierre* has charged the abettors of the Newtonian philoſophy. But this is reaſoning in vain; for it is impoſſible that an argument, taken from the nature of a centrifugal force, can have any weight

* Vid. Recueil de Tables Aſtronomiques Publie ſous la direction de L'Academie Royale de Pruſſe, Vol. III. p. 171. where, from a compariſon of the experiments made by different philoſophers upon this ſubject, it is found that the length of a pendulum, vibrating ſeconds at the equator, is 439.224, and at the poles 441,522 lines of a Paris foot.

† From experiments made on the lengths of pendulums, by Dr Maſkelyne, he found that the force of gravity at *Greenwich*, is to the force of gravity at *St Helena*, as 10,000,000 to 9,975,405. See the Philoſophical Tranſactions for 1762, Part II.

‡ This is excellently illuſtrated by a curious machine, deſcribed in *Ferguſon's Mechanics*, p. 46. It conſiſts of two thin and flexible circular hoops, croſſing one another at right angles, and fitted upon an axis, in ſuch a manner, that it may be looſe in one of the poles or places where the hoops interſect each other. When this machine is moved rapidly round its axis, its middle, or equatoreal parts, ſwell out, and the parts about the pole are ſo much depreſſed, that the whole aſſumes the figure of an oblate ſpheroid, having its axis of rotation conſiderably ſhorter than its equatoreal diameter.

weight with the author of the Studies of Nature; who tells us, "That "centrifugal and centripetal forces "no more exiſt in the heavens than "the equator or the zodiac, and "that they are only ſcaffoldings ima- "gined by men of genius for rearing "the fabric of ſcience *." They are indeed ſcaffoldings, admirably fitted for rearing the fabric of ſcience; but they are not *imagined* by men of genius. They are ſcaffoldings which exiſt as really as the ſun and the planets; and which ſhall exiſt as long as that fabric which they have aſſiſted to rear. They are ſcaffoldings, upon which the followers of Newton ſhall raiſe themſelves with exultation, to behold the philoſophy of their maſter ſpringing, with undecayed vigour, from the wreck of ruined ſyſtems; riſing ſuperior to the baſeleſs ſtructures of his opponents, and melting, with the diſſolving powers of truth, the icy fabrics of *St Pierre*; that, by returning to their priſtine ſtate, they may conſolidate the chaos and rubbiſh of ancient ſyſtems, and add ſtability to thoſe ſcaffoldings of the Newtonian philoſophy, at which modern pretenders have ſcratched, and will ſcratch in vain.

Theſe obſervations, the tranſlator of the Studies of Nature may again tell us, "are the menſtrual effuſions of anonymous journaliſts †." The aſſertion is partly true—the end for which it was aſſerted ſcandalous and malicious. But while truth reigns predominant in the human breaſt; and while demonſtration is preferred to unfounded conjecture, they will be found to be the effuſions of a philoſophy, which, firmly fixed on the ſolid baſis of experiment, ſhall continue to inſtruct and enlighten the minds of men, long after the paultry philoſophy of *St Pierre* and his tranſlator is ſunk into infamy and buried in oblivion ‡. *D. B.*

EDINBURGH, *Geo. Square*, *Dec.* 11*th*, 1800.

## THE TABLE OF MODERN FAME. A VISION.

*By Dr Akenside.—Not inserted in his Works.*

LAST night, after leaving the company, where I had ſpent the evening, I took up a volume of the Tatler, to conclude the day. I happened to light on that admired paper, where the moſt celebrated perſonages of antiquity are repreſented at the table of Fame. I was very agreeably amuſed with the venerable aſſembly, and the pleaſing manner in which they are introduced; till I had formed my own mind to that compoſure and ſtillneſs, which is the beſt preparative to a happy repoſe. As ſoon as I fell aſleep, methought I was walking in an immenſe plain, where I met

* Studies of Nature, Vol. I. p. 152.

† Preface to the Studies of Nature.

‡ If the remarks contained in the preceding pages be juſt, St Pierre's theory of the tides cannot be true, as it wholly depends on the earth's being a prolate ſpheroid. But, as has been obſerved by a real philoſopher, (Encyclop. Britan. Art. Tides,) though the earth were elevated at the poles, yet the melting of the polar ices could not produce a ſingle wave. For if a quantity of ſnow, ſqueezed as hard as poſſible, be put into a veſſel of water, the water will continue at the ſame height in the veſſel, after the ſnow is melted, as before; which ſhews us, that if there were a hundred times more ice at the poles than there is, it would only occupy the ſame place, after it was melted by the heat of the ſun, as it occupied before it was frozen; and, conſequently, could not produce any flux of the waters from the poles towards the equator.

I met a figure of great dignity repreſenting a man in the full vigour of his age, clothed in a purple garment, with a rod of ſilver in his hand; he accoſted me, and I learned from his diſcourſe, that he had formerly lived upon our earth; but that now he was raiſed to the enjoyment of that felicity, which God has appointed for the reward of prudence and virtue. "I ſee," ſaid he, "young man, that you are juſt returned from the manſion of *ancient* fame, and I perceive, by your countenance, that you have not been thoroughly ſatisfied with the goddeſs of the place, or with the order of that aſſembly over which ſhe preſides. You mortals are prone to imagine that the ſmiles of *Fame* are always beſtowed according to the ſuffrage of virtue; but in this you find you are miſtaken. If your curioſity incline you to enquire into the management of *modern fame*, the younger ſiſter, follow me, and I will conduct you to her abode."

Immediately he led me to a very ſpacious building, of a mixed and crude ſort of architecture, where, though I admired the expenſiveneſs of the materials, yet the ornaments, methought, were ill deſigned, and of a vulgar taſte: like a clumſy, ungraceful perſon dreſſed out in jewels and embroidery. I was particularly diſguſted to ſee among the ancient feſtoons of flowers, pipes, and muſical reeds, which were adjuſted to the columns of the temple; to ſee mitres, and triple crowns, croiſiers, and other enſigns of eccleſiaſtical diſcipline. This building was ſurrounded with an innumerable crowd of people; and at each of the ſpacious doors, which opened on every ſide of it, I obſerved a tall majeſtical woman, attended with a crowd of figures, ſome like men with large volumes in their hands, and others reſembling the deſcriptions which poets have given us of the muſes. Theſe women, as my conductor informed me, were the guardians or genii of the ſeveral nations of the world. The hiſtorians and the muſes were continually moving from one to another, yet I obſerved that they never viſited ſome of the gates, where the women were almoſt naked, or dreſſed in turbans and painted feathers. We entered the temple. At the upper end ſat the goddeſs, on a throne of very uncommon ſtructure; it was compoſed of very different materials, laid out in a beautiful architectonic manner: I obſerved that military inſtruments, as ſtandards, ſwords, and pieces of artillery, moſt frequently appeared in the architecture; yet I likewiſe caſt my eye on teleſcopes, rudders, painting pallets, geometrical ſchemes, and inſtruments of handicraft. By the looks and motions of the people within the temple, I gueſſed that we were juſt come in to be preſent at ſome great ceremony; for I obſerved the muſes and hiſtorians ſtepping ever and anon from ſome or other of the gates, and whiſpering the goddeſs, who gave each of them directions, which I could not hear. I aſked my conductor the purpoſe of this great preparation; and what meant the twenty thrones which I counted round the temple, and why ſome of them were quite empty, while others were laid hold of by certain perſons, who ſtood behind them, as if they were waiting for leave to ſit down? He anſwered me in the following manner: "You are come from the table of *ancient fame:* the goddeſs there diſpoſed of her honours without reſerve or conditional change; her youngeſt ſiſter is not ſo conſtant: once in every century ſhe reviews her aſſembly, and frequently makes great alterations, removing her ſubjects from one ſeat to a lower, or a higher; admitting ſtrangers, or entirely excluding her former favourites. To-day is the anniverſary of her great eſtabliſhment: the empty ſeats formerly belonged to thoſe whom ſhe has now entirely

baniſhed from her palace. Thoſe perſons whom you ſee ſtanding behind ſome of the thrones, have leave to renew their claim, and, if no other candidates obtain their place, will continue in the order which formerly belonged to them." While he was ſpeaking, the goddeſs roſe from her ſeat, and commanded the ſeveral nations in her preſence to introduce their candidates in the order ſhe had enjoined them. Upon this all the crowd of ſpectators diſappeared, and the temple was left quite empty. After a ſhort pauſe, the trumpet of the goddeſs ſounded, the whole fabrick ſhook, and my heart was filled with a rapture and aſtoniſhment which I never felt before.

Immediately the temple was crowded again, and from the uppermoſt gate entered the moſt beautiful of thoſe divine women, the genius of Italy; ſhe led in a middle-aged man, in a very plain dreſs, who held in his hand a mariner's compaſs. The ſpectators, whoſe countenances expreſſed the moſt impatient ſuſpenſe, gave a confuſed acclamation, and I heard at once from a hundred mouths, the name of Columbus. He advanced toward the goddeſs, and ſat down on the higheſt place, with an air of eaſe, as if that ſeat had been long familiar to him. "That," ſaid my conductor, "is the man who has enabled hiſtory to out-do fable; nor are the actions of the Grecian Hercules, either for greatneſs of imagination, or for boldneſs, or utility, comparable to the diſcovery of the new world; yet, perhaps, you will this day ſee another take place of him."

The trumpet ſounded a ſecond time; while I was expecting ſome other perſonage from the gates, neareſt to the goddeſs, I obſerved a great hurry at the lower end of the temple. A woman, whom I had before taken notice of among thoſe who appeared almoſt naked and wild, advanced from her gate in a robe of furs, and other ſkins, and approached toward the goddeſs. The genii at the upper end expreſſed a mixture of ſurpriſe and indignation, that ſo ſavage a figure ſhould now dare to ſtep before them. As ſhe drew near, I obſerved the perſon whom ſhe conducted; he was a robuſt man in armour, with his own hair, a black eagle on his breaſt, and a carpenter's ax in his hand: I knew his habit, and with the crowd pronounced haſtily, the name of Peter the Great. He ſat down on the ſecond throne, and I could not help applauding the juſtice of the goddeſs.

The third perſon who appeared, was conducted by the repreſentative of Italy, but the moment he ſet his foot within the temple, the muſes, and all the attendant powers from the other gates, ran up at once to uſher him; he ſeemed between thirty and forty years of age. The lyric, the comic, and the heroic muſe, a winged virgin with a lyre, another with a pallet, a third with a chiſſel and block of marble, and an infinite number of beautiful young figures did him honour as he paſſed: he returned their congratulations with ſmiles of the higheſt complaiſance, and ſeemed pleaſed with his introduction, chiefly as it ſecured him ſuch amiable companions. By his pontifical robes, I knew him for Leo X.

But our next perſonage was uſhered in a very different manner; he entered from the German gate; a great noiſe of diſputants and logical terms preceded him; his face had a very bold, eager caſt, his eyes were keen, and his dreſs monkiſh. When he came to ſit down, ſeeing Leo on the throne next above him, he fell into a violent rage, and would needs have roſe again. Leo, on the other hand, turned from him with a ſmile of high contempt, and begged of the beautiful powers, who ſtood around him, that they would hide that rude creature from his eyes, and defend his ears with their harmony, from the jargon

jargon which he uttered. I was vexed at his being thruſt into ſo unſuitable a neighbourhood, and aſked my guide, who he was? "His name," ſaid he, is Martin Luther; he has done more good to mankind, than moſt of thoſe whoſe intentions were the beſt and moſt heroic; his character, his views, and paſſions, were contemptible and hateful. Remember what I told you, fame does not proceed on the award of wiſdom or virtue, but is governed ſolely by the revolutions of mortal things."

I was angry and diſappointed that I had yet ſeen none of my countrymen, when the trumpet ſounded, and I beheld a figure entering from one of the upper gates, with a red croſs upon her ſhield, leading a venerable man in the decline of life. I remembered the face of Sir Iſaac Newton; he advanced in a very compoſed manner, without ſpeaking a word, or ſeeming to take notice of the acclamations which came from every part of the temple. All eyes were fixed upon him, and all were proud that they had ſeen him; yet I obſerved a man at the French gate, dreſſed in a very gaudy, fantaſtical habit, who repined bitterly that his place was taken from him; while the guardian deity of his nation ſeemed to be muſing upon a thouſand ſchemes how to regain it. There was a man too, who advanced imprudently from the German gate, and would have driven Newton from his ſeat by force; he was a very odd figure, with a night-cap on his head, a mathematical diagram in one hand, and a bottle of rheniſh in the other. The goddeſs ordered him to be chaſtiſed for a robber, and turned out with infamy.

At the next trumpet, the gay lady whoſe robes were flowered with lilies, left her favourite Des Cartes, about whom, till that moment, ſhe had been ſo ſolicitous, and turned to introduce a tall graceful man, who walked along in a full bottomed wig, with infinite ſelf-applauſe. When he ſaw Leo, he made a very complaiſant bow: yet as Shakſpeare ſays, "he quenched his familiar ſmile, with an auſtere regard of controul." I ſuppoſe it was Lewis XIV. and complained to my guide that ſuch a man ſhould be ſo honoured. "Have patience, ſaid he, "meet me here a hundred years hence, and you ſhall ſee the goddeſs order him under ground, to the houſe of *evil fame*; at preſent, ſhe muſt have her way. Look round, and ſee if you are better ſatisfied with him who comes next."

I ſaw a compoſed, matron-like figure, bring in a man in armour, with ſigns of the higheſt veneration and gratitude. "That," ſaid my conductor, "is William I. prince of Orange, a name that muſt be venerable upon your globe, as long as public virtue is remembered among you; and of this divine man, I can propheſy, that he will never loſe his place. The youth who is now entering, will perhaps give you more pleaſure; and indeed, though his merits and actions are not of ſo high a kind, yet his virtue ſhone perhaps in a more ſevere trial, in a courſe of uninterrupted proſperity; ſo that if his times had given him an opportunity, he was equal to any thing which can be acted by a man and a ſoldier." I looked round, and beheld from the Engliſh gate a young man in armour, with a ſpear of ebony, and beautiful as Raphael or Milton could imagine. You need not, ſaid I, tell me who this is; I ſee the motto of Wales on his ſhield, and the fable ſpear in his hand, which has rendered the name of Edward, or of Plantagenet, uſeleſs. All hail! thou blameleſs ornament of my native country.—I was going on in a kind of enthuſiaſm, when my conductor checked me, and bade me take notice of the next who entered. I found a greater noiſe and diſorder than I had obſerved

ed before. Germany and Spain had joined to introduce a coarſe, robuſt man; and France endeavoured to place before him a tall, majeſtic perſon, with a crown on his head, who looked upon his antagoniſt with an air of reproach and diſdain. This was Francis I. However, his opponent got the better, and took his place accordingly. By the imperial eagle, which he wore at his breaſt, I ſuppoſed it to be Charles V. At ſitting down, he laughed at his adverſary, "And," ſays he, "if I muſt have given way, it ſhould never have been to that doughty, romantic knight, my priſoner; but to this great man, who gave me immortality," pointing to Titian, who ſtood in the crowd of his attendants.

The next perſon that entered, was dreſſed in a morning-gown, and uſhered in by the lady of the Red-croſs. He had no ſymbol nor inſtrument in his hand; but ſhowed a very thoughtful and penetrating countenance. He walked up in a profound ſilence, and made no return, but a look of grave diſpleaſure, to the ſalutation of his next neighbour. However, he took very reſpectful notice of ſome at the table, particularly of Columbus and Newton. Leo ſeemed afraid of him. Luther made him a very gracious bow, and would have been extremely intimate with him; but received a cold, forbidding frown. By this account of him, the reader will know as well as I did, who ſaw what paſſed, that this was Locke. The next entrance was made from the Italian gate, and there appeared a thin, meagre man, whoſe countenance expreſſed great pain and dejection of ſpirit, as if he had been worn out with famine and torture. He held in his hand a teleſcope; and my conductor told me it was Galileo, whoſe face retained thoſe indelible marks of the blind, brutal zeal, of his ghoſtly tormentors. He ſat down by Locke, who ſeemed infinitely pleaſed with his company, and told him that he had been endeavouring to cure mankind of that ſtupid reverence for ruffians and murderers, who maſked their inhumanity with the name of religion. After the next trumpet, there was a long pauſe, and nobody appeared. I heard a buſtle at the German gate. The goddeſs aſked what was the matter? The robuſt German tutelary made anſwer, That ſhe was introducing one, who, if uſeful diſcoveries could challenge reſpect in that place, was perhaps entitled to the higheſt ſeat. Immediately I heard words of a rough ſound; Guttemberg, Fuſt, Mentz, Straſburgh! I then underſtood that the crowd of Germans at that gate, were diſputing which of them ſhould enter as the diſcoverer of printing. The conteſt continued a long time, and grew ſtill more violent. Upon which the goddeſs ſpoſe out, that when they could agree about the inventor, ſhe would frankly allow his claim: but that till then, ſhe would put in his place, one whoſe merit and whoſe glory was now unqueſtionably eſtabliſhed, after as great diſputes about it, as had ever divided her ſubjects. Upon this ſhe made a ſign to the *Red-croſs* lady, who accordingly introduced a venerable old man, whom I did not at all know. He was attended by a female figure with a *patera* in her hand, reſembling the ancient figures of Salus. I was ſurpriſed at the ſight of an Engliſh worthy, with whom I was not acquainted; but my guide informed me, that his name was Harvey. "And ſee," ſaid he, "how enviouſly thoſe other tutelar genii regard him," pointing to France and Italy.

The trumpet again ſounded, and the guardian of Italy moved. As ſoon as ſhe returned, there was a confuſed noiſe of *evil fame!* and *downward with him!* A great herd of prieſts and monks, and prime miniſters joined in the cry; and among them

them was a young man, with a crown on his head, who made the loudeſt noiſe, and who aſſured the goddeſs of fame that the perſon coming in was an abandoned profligate, and that he himſelf had a much better title to the next vacant ſeat. The goddeſs looked on him with great contempt, and bid him hold his peace, elſe ſhe would order him below ſtairs, and put him again under his father's tuition. At this he was ſilent, and Machiavel appeared. Leo gave him a very familiar look, as if he was glad to ſee him, and congratulated him upon the honour which he had now obtained, of being ſeated at the ſame table with one of the great family, who had been his old patrons. But Machiavel anſwered him only with a look of ſhame, diſlike, and indignation. The Italian genius moved again toward the gate, and returned with two men, not being able to reſolve which of them ſhould enter.

Theſe were Taſſo and Arioſto. She herſelf inclined chiefly to the latter; but the majority of the ſpectators oppoſed it, and Taſſo took his place. At the next trumpet, the tutelary of France went out with the aſſured air that was natural to her, and brought in a tall, ſlender man, in a large wig, with a very fine ſneer upon his face. She ſaid his name was Boileau, and that nobody could pretend to diſpute that place with him. However the ſtately genius of England oppoſed her; her remonſtrances prevailed, and Pope took the place, which Boileau thought belonged to him. Upon this, there aroſe among the other genii a great clamour againſt the red-croſs lady, mixed with many ſigns of ridicule and ſcorn. She aſked what they were diſpleaſed at? They anſwered, That ſhe ſhould contend ſo eagerly for her own glory, and yet ſo obſtinately neglect a claim upon which ſhe might beſt found it; and which, whenever ſhe advanced it, they would all give way to. She turned round, and ſaw Bacon ready to enter, without aſking her to conduct him. She looked at him with great diſguſt; yet with ſuch an air as a tender mother diſcovers, when her favourite child is guilty of ſome inexcuſable fault. She led him in with great reluctance, and ſhewed him his place, the next vacant one below Pope. He ſtood, and looked upon it, and all the ſpectators ſeemed aſhamed that he had not a higher ſeat, Locke, Newton, Harvey, and Machiavel, all cried out to Pope to riſe, and give place; but he took no notice of them, only he turned his head another way; and I heard him mutter the words *wiſeſt, brighteſt, meaneſt.* Upon this Bacon looked around, and drew the eyes of all the aſſembly. His preſence, at that time, had an effect upon them, like the preſence of a deſcended god upon thoſe mortals, whom he favours with his converſe. Then raiſing his head, "Sure I am," ſaid he, with a voice of authority, and a moſt graceful manner, "ſure I am, that if there be any place belonging to me in this aſſembly, it muſt be one neareſt to the goddeſs: and one where I may beſt avail myſelf of her power." Immediately the aſſembly with one accord invited him forward; the goddeſs beckoned him to draw near, and ſeated him on the higheſt throne. Columbus himſelf officiouſly gave way; telling him that the diſcovery of a new world was but a ſlender acquiſition of crude materials, to be improved and perfected in that immenſe world of human knowledge and human power, which he had firſt diſcovered, and through which he had taught other mortals to travel with ſecurity.

The next that entered was a man in iron armour, with a baſket-hilted ſword. France, Germany, and Italy, turned pale at the ſight of him; and

I heard

I heard them whiſper the name of Guſtavus Adolphus. He was followed by a beautiful youth, of a very ſweet and gentle aſpect. As he drew nearer I knew him to be Raphael. Leo heard of his admiſſion with an extravagant joy, and could hardly be reſtrained from quitting his place, that he might ſit next him. Then appeared a blind old man, with the air of an ancient prophet, ſupported and led in by the genius of England. When I knew him, I was extremely diſcontented that no more honourable place had been reſerved for Milton.

"You forget," ſaid my conductor, "that the loweſt place in this aſſembly is one of twenty, the moſt honourable gifts which fame has to beſtow among the whole human ſpecies. Milton is now admitted for the firſt time, and was not but with difficulty admitted at all. But have patience for a few years longer; he will be continually aſcending in the goddeſs' favour, and may perhaps at laſt obtain the higheſt, or at leaſt the ſecond place in theſe her ſolemnities. In the mean time, ſee how he is received, by the man who is beſt qualified here to judge of his dignity." I looked at him again, and ſaw Raphael making him the moſt affectionate congratulations, accounting himſelf happy that he was ſeated next him, and inſiſted on his taking the ſuperior hand. There now remained but one place to be diſpoſed of. The tutelar deity of Spain led in, toward it, a ſlender man, with black piercing eyes, an aquiline noſe, and a ſwarthy complexion. He had loſt one of his hands, by which mark I knew him to be Cervantes. He expected no oppoſition, as the place had formerly belonged to him, but in this point he was miſtaken; for Moliere advanced from the French entrance, and diſputed the chair, with infinite pleaſantry and good-humour. Cervantes, however, kept his place; but while their controverſy was hardly yet decided, a third candidate appeared, with a great ſhout of clamorous mirth from the whole aſſembly. They told me he had bruſhed in by ſtealth, and in ſpite of the grave lady, who conducted his countrymen, I knew the arch leer, the nut-brown bays, and the Foppington ſtep of my facetious friend, Colley Cibber. But his appearance, his arguments, and the eloquence with which he delivered them, quite diſjointed the remainder of my dream, and I waked in a very hearty fit of laughter.

*FOR THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.*

## MELROSE ABBEY; A TALE.

Wide o'er the bloody ſcene, while glory flies,
To heap the pile of human ſacrifice;
Hid, in ſome lone retreat, the widow weeps,
Her heart's beſt treaſure————
From the firſt beam, that wakes the golden day,
To ling'ring twilight's melancholy ray,
No reſpite comes, her breaking heart to cheer,
Or, from the fount of miſery, ſteal a tear!

*Miſs* BANNERMAN'S *Poems.*

I SPENT a few weeks, laſt ſummer, with a friend in the ancient village of Melroſe. It ſtands on the romantic banks of the Tweed, and is well known for its magnificent Abbey, which attracts the attention of the curious traveller. During my ſtay, I paid frequent viſits to the Abbey; when twilight ſtole over

over the ſcene, my footſteps were directed thither. I wandered round it, and gazed with ſublime awe upon its gothic arches and venerable towers. There is ſomething that wraps the mind in a pleaſing melancholy, when we view the manſions of the great of other times. We ſeem to behold them treading their halls, and preſiding at their feaſts. When we hear of any great or glorious action, we are anxious to ſee the ſpot where it happened. It is this deſire that leads the traveller to viſit foreign countries, to view ſcenes that were famous in paſt days, and we pore intently upon the page of hiſtory, to tread, in imagination, with the hero over the field of glory.

I like to ſpend the Sunday in a village; it is ſo ſweet and quiet. In the crowded city, when I ſee people hurrying to and fro, I forget that it is a day of reſt; but I love to ſee the decent deportment of the ſimple peaſants, as they aſſemble in the houſe of prayer. I was taking a walk one Sunday evening, when my ſteps were directed to the church-yard: the door was open; I entered; and ſeeing two open graves, I ſuppoſed that they were waiting for their cold inhabitants. When I wander through a church-yard, it fills my mind with a pleaſing ſolemnity; it humbles the pride of my heart, while I conſider that I muſt one day be cold, and ſtill, as thoſe around me. I walk with ſilent awe, among the "unknown, unnumbered, dumb, forgotten throng." Their wanderings are over, and the friend, and the foe ſleep peaceably together. There is ſomething painful in treading upon the turf which covers our friend. It is a fooliſh thought, yet I have often felt uneaſy, when I ſaw the careleſs boy running over the little mounds of earth which are compoſed of the bones of our fellow-creatures. While I was muſing thus, I turned round, and perceived that the funeral train was approaching. I walked away to a little diſtance, as it ſeemed like idle curioſity, to be looking on. Nothing diſpleaſes me more than to obſerve the hurried manner in which a friend is conducted to the grave; as the attendants move along, they talk over the news of the day, or the buſineſs of their farms, or ſchemes of merchandiſe. When they aſſemble, they perhaps notice the occaſion of their meeting; obſerve, that he died ſuddenly, inquire how he has left his family; and recur again to their former topics of converſation. How ſtrange, that while they ſee the ſtrong, active man, who took a part in their concerns but a few days before, carried a lifeleſs clod, to mix with his kindred duſt; even then, their minds are engaged about the things of time, they cannot ſpare a little while to conſider of the things of eternity! The coffin was let down, the earth fell upon it with a mournful ſound; they filled it up, and throwing the green turf upon it, they departed, without the leaſt apparent concern, although they had witneſſed the laſt office performed to their friend. I inquired who had been conſigned to the duſt? It was a young man a ſhoemaker in the village: he had caught an infectious fever, and died after a few days illneſs, leaving a wife and three children, who depended on the labour of his hands. This was a piteous tale, yet it was not ſufficient to move the hearts of his companions. Another coffin was borne along the church-yard; a very few perſons attended, but I thought their faces were more ſorrowful; they looked on in ſilence, and when the turf was laid on, each walked gloomily away. I aſked who filled the ſecond grave? It was a young woman, the widow of an officer. She had ſuffered much; life had become a burthen too heavy to be borne, and the Almighty had releaſed her from it. I was intereſted in her ſtory, from the few circumſtances I learned, and next day I inquired in the village. She died in the houſe of her ſtepmother, in the neighbourhood of Melroſe, but from a peaſant I received the following particulars:—

"Matilda Maxwell was the only child of James Maxwell, who had inherited, from his father, a ſmall eſtate in the neighbourhood of Melroſe. Her mother died before ſhe had reached her ſecond year, and left her father in a ſtate of diſmal deſpondency. He had few friends around him, and he looked anxiouſly upon his daughter, and found himſelf bereft of the tender partner who ſhould have formed her manners, and watched over her growing years. Her mother's friends and acquaintances flocked around him, and ſhowed many little attentions to his child, but theſe could not atone for the want of a mother's conſtant care.

"Among thoſe friends of his wife who now offered him their condolence, came one who profeſſed an uncommon attachment to him and his Matilda. Miſs Robertſon

bertſon lived near Mr Maxwell, and ſhowed an unremitting attention to his intereſts. She appeared to be really anxious about his child: and the good man was ſo pleaſed, and grateful, for her kindneſs, that he became uneaſy when ſhe was a day abſent. By the advice of his friends, and his own feelings, he was prevailed upon, two years after his wife's death, to marry Miſs Robertſon, and ſo bind her, by a ſtronger tye, to be a mother to his daughter. But he ſoon found, that, in acting from the impulſe of gratitude, he had materially injured his own, and his daughter's happineſs. She was a woman of a proud, haughty temper, ſoured by frequent diſappointment; but, for the better accompliſhment of her project, thoſe paſſions had, for a ſeaſon, lain dormant. Mr Maxwell ſaw, with anguiſh, that her attentions to Matilda ceaſed; ſhe was vain, and ambitious of appearing to advantage herſelf, but ſhe was not anxious to bring forward Matilda. Though ſhe had a cold, ſuſpicious heart, yet ſo completely was ſhe ruled by vanity and the love of getting a good name, that, before ſtrangers, ſhe appeared mild and gentle, and the ſmile of good nature ſat upon her countenance, which, in the family circle, was dark and frowning. When his friends mentioned how happy he muſt be in poſſeſſing ſuch a valuable woman, he aſſented, but his heart ſmote him with the ſad idea of his inward anguiſh. While ſeated alone by his fire-ſide, he found himſelf the miſerable dupe of his own generoſity; ſad and dreary were his hours; but it was weak and unmanly to complain to his friends, whoſe pity could not alleviate his miſery; yet he ſometimes was hurt, to obſerve her laviſhing her ſmiles upon ſtrangers, and not one left to ſweeten the hour of retirement. Matilda, as ſhe grew up, reſembled her mother, and ſhe promiſed to have all her ſweetneſs and gentleneſs of diſpoſition. Her father obſerved it with pleaſure mixed with pain, for it reminded him of paſt joys, and contraſting it with his preſent ſituation, it almoſt overwhelmed him. Matilda's kind diſpoſitions, and enaging manners, were every where acceptable. Her perſon was elegant and pleaſing, and her ſtep-mother beheld, with envy, her attractions, and diſliked her, becauſe ſhe was univerſally beloved. Poor Matilda paid dear for the pleaſure ſhe received abroad; for her days were embittered by railing and diſcontent. She would often weep for abuſe ſhe had received without any cauſe, but ſhe ſaw her father grieved, and wiped away her tears, that ſhe might not increaſe his miſery.

"In the family of a friend in the neighbourhood, Matilda ſaw Captain Harwood: he was a young man, of a pleaſant diſpoſition, and engaging manners. Matilda was placed next him, they had a good deal of converſation, and, before they parted, they ſtood high in one another's good eſteem. George Harwood was the ſon of a merchant in Liverpool; his parents died when he was not of age to chuſe any profeſſion, but in his childiſh ſports he ſeemed to ſhow a predilection for the army. Having few friends whoſe judgment had any weight with him in influencing his choice, he followed the bent of his own inclination, and purchaſed a commiſſion in the army. It was in the time of war, ſo he entered immediately into actual ſervice. There was a ceſſation of arms for ſome time, and Captain Harwood obtained leave of abſence to viſit his friends in Liverpool. One of thoſe friends had come to ſtay with a relation near Melroſe, and it was at the houſe of this friend that Matilda accidentally became acquainted with him. He came to ſee her at her father's houſe; they became much attached to each other, and, with her father's conſent, they were married. Two months glided happily away; when an order arrived for Captain Harwood to join his regiment. He quitted Matilda with great reluctance, yet ſhe could not well accompany him; he thought it better to leave her with her father, and he hoped ſoon to ſee her again. After an affectionate farewell, he departed. Matilda was lonely, and diſpirited; but ſhe endeavoured to look cheerful, to amuſe her father, whoſe health was declining faſt. His ſpirit was broken, and his daughter's marriage had produced an excitement which ſeemed to have had an unfavourable effect upon him. His daughter watched by his bedſide, but ſhe could not delay the fatal event: he expired, bleſſing her; and while ſhe gazed upon his mild countenance, his eyes ſeemed ſtill to beam with love to her, and ſhe could not believe that they were cloſed for ever. Matilda was now bereft of the kindeſt of parents,—ſhe ſaw him carried forth to the grave, and ſhe had

had no boſom that felt with her: ſhe became ſilent, and loved to be alone, to think of her huſband fighting amidſt dangers, on a diſtant land. Mrs Maxwell appeared concerned at her huſband's death, but it was momentary; ſhe ſoon left the ſorrowful Matilda, to preſent herſelf in her mourning dreſs to her gay circles. Matilda had received from her father a religious education; ſo it enabled her not to overcome the feelings of humanity, but to bear with calmneſs, a ſeparation from thoſe ſhe loved, for ſhe had a well-grounded hope, that if ſhe did not meet them here, ſhe would rejoin them at death in a better country. She had one letter from her huſband, and he promiſed to write her ſoon again. But the next awful intelligence, that was raſhly communicated to her, was, that he had fallen on the banks of the Rhine! fallen, without a friend near him, to bear his laſt bleſſing to his diſconſolate widow. Poor Matilda received this ſecond blow with wonderful firmneſs. She appeared calm and tranquil; but if at any time ſhe was forced to ſee any ſtrangers, the effort to be cheerful was painful to her. She would wander round the Abbey, and think of her huſband who died at a diſtance from her, whoſe bones were mouldering on a foreign ſhore. Her heart was ſore with the tauntings of her ſtep-mother, who would upbraid her for her love of retirement, and bid her mix again with the world, and make a ſecond choice.

Matilda inherited from her mother the conſumptive habit. Her father had taken great pains to correct it, but grief and anxiety had haſtened its approach to her, and ſhe has ſunk gradually ſince the death of her huſband. Yeſterday you ſaw her laid in the grave, and ſhe is now releaſed from all her troubles."

This is the ſtory of Matilda, who, after a ſhort, but diſtreſſing ſtruggle, ſleeps in peace. A ſmall ſpot of earth holds thee; thy boſom throbs no more with joy or pain. I ſaw the green turf thrown upon thy cold dwelling; thy huſband ſleeps at a diſtance from thee, but no diſtance ſhall prevent congenial ſpirits from meeting again in worlds of bliſs. Farewell, gentle Matilda: I ſhall often think of thee, and the many woes that depreſſed thy kind heart, whilſt thou ſojourned here below.

M. S. A.

# Poetry.

*For the Edinburgh Magazine.*

## THE DAFT DAYS.

NAE langer Simmer's cheerin' rays
Are glentin' on the plains;
Nor friſkin' lambies on the braes
Delight the blythſome ſwains;
Nor woodland burds enjoy their loves,
Whilk link them firm thegither;
Nor mountain-bee, wild-bummin, roves
For hinney 'mang the heather
Or broom this day.

Wan, fawin' leaves the foreſt fill;
Stript nakit is the plain;
An' Nature on yon ſnaw-tapt hill
Sits ſichin, ſad, alane;
An' cauld *December*'s pirlin' drift
Maks Winter fierce an' ſnell come;
But beet the fire!—We'll mak a ſhift
The infant year to welcome
Wi' joy this day!

On *auld year*'s morn, the countra focks
Wi' gleeſome ſpeed riſe ſoon *;
Ere night, the girls maun end their *rocks*,
An' get their ſpinnin doon.
The lads the byres an' ſtables muck,
An' clean the corn is dightit:—
A *ſingle life* ſall be their luck,
Whaſe taſk's undoon or ſlightit
By them this day.

The farmers' wives are bakin' thrang †;
The *farles* wi' carvie ſpiced:

The

* It compoſes part of the *creed* of the Scottiſh peaſantry, that if any part of the work in which they are engaged, remains unfiniſhed upon the laſt day of the old year, their *matrimonial* wiſhes, however ſanguine, ſhall never be crowned with ſucceſs. Hence, they are generally early at work that morning, in order to accompliſh their taſks, and that they may have leiſure to behold and engage in the feſtivity of the day.

† The cuſtom of giving *noor-cakes* (new year's cakes) to the children of thoſe who are deſtined to travel in the lower walks of life, is ſo generally practiſed in my native coun-

The kebbock auld, in monie a whang,
By joctelegs is fliced.
The cotter weanies, glad an' gay,
Wi' pocks out owre their ſhouther,
Sing at the doors for *hogmoney*,
An' loup an' dance a' throuther,
For joy this day!

Ye wives, whaſe leeſome hearts are fain
To get the poor man's bleſſin',
Your *trampit girnels* dinna hain;
What's gien will ne'er be miſſin.'
Wi' cheeſe an' nappie *noor-cakes*, auld
An' young weel fill'd an daſt are;
Wha winna be fae crouſe an' bauld
For a lang towmont after,
As on this day.

To ſpae their *fortune*, 'mang the deugh
The *luckie Fardin*'s put in * :
The *ſcones*, ilk ane eats fáſt eneugh,
Like onie hungrie glutton.
Auld *Auntie*, now three ſcore an' ſax,
Quick mumbled them fae crumpie;
'Till, ſtap! ſhe braſs her *ae tooth* taks,
An' craſh!—clean through gead *ſlumpie*,
By the roots that day!

Whan gloamin' gray comes frae the eaſt,
Through a' the *Gyſarts* venture †;
In ſarks an' paper helmets dreſt,
They for their *bawbees* enter.
His gude *claymore* here *Cæſar* wheels,
An' here raves *Alexander!*—
O! happy warld! had theſe auld chiels,
Like Gyſarts, deign'd to wander
Through yearth yon day!

A Blade, wha laugh'd at Ghaiſts an' Diels,
At Virtue an' Religion;
An' ſwore, ſic ſillie, auld wives tales,
Nae man o' ſenſe cou'd hedge in;
A *batch* o' black fac'd Gyſarts met,
Wham he thought *ghoſts* in motion;
Straught i' the gutters he fell flat,
An' pray'd wi' deep devotion,
An' ſear that night!

Twall ſtruck.—Twa neebour hizzies raiſe,
An' liltin', gaed a ſad gate ‡;
"The flower o' the well to our houſe gaes,
"An' I'll the bonnieſt lad get!"—
They met: an' aff ſcowr'd for their fraught,
Thick darkneſs made them blind maiſt;
Nor ſtapp'd—'till hearth flew bellie-flaught,
I' the pool! diel tak the hindmaiſt!
Wi' a plaſh, that night!

Ere *new year's morn* begins to peep,
Wi' glee, but little din;
At doors, the laſſies ſentrie keep,
To let the *firſt fit* in §.
Nae auld, camſhauchel'd, warlock loun,
Nor black, wanchauncie carlin,
Sall croſs ae threſhold i' the town,
'Till ilk ane gets her darlin'
To kiſs that night.

The lads, weel kennin' what is due,
Their new-year gifties take;
*Het-pints* to warm the cauldrife mou,
An' *buns* an' *ſuccar-cake*.—
Through a' the neebour houſes near,
What rackittin' an' bouſin'!—
An'

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try, to the honour of Scotland, that I need ſcarcely ſay a word to elucidate it. The cotters' children go to the doors of thoſe who are in more opulent circumſtances, ſing over the *hogmoney* ſong, filled with wiſhes for the proſperity of the family, and receive from the *fair* hand of benevolence a cake of oat-meal, called a *hogmoney*, or *noor-cake*.

* This is a favourite cuſtom. A ſmall lump of the dough, from which the *noor-cakes* have been taken, is reſerved: in it a ſmall *coin*, uſually a farthing, is put. The dough is then rolled very thin, and cut into ſmall round *ſcones*; which, when *fired*, are handed round the company. No time is loſt in eating them, it being of vaſt importance to get the ſcone with the hidden treaſure; as it is believed, that happy perſon ſhall firſt taſte the ſweets of *matrimonial* felicity.

† A number of boys, generally about half a dozen, blacken their faces, get on their ſhirts uppermoſt, and, with a helmet and ſword, armed *cap-a-pee*, go to the neighbouring houſes, and perſonating the characters of their *predeceſſors*, Alexander, Cæſar, &c. act a certain interlude, which is handed down from father to ſon. A few pence reward their *innocent* endeavours to pleaſe.

‡ Upon the morning of the firſt day of the new year, the country laſſies are ſure to riſe as early as poſſible, if they have been in bed, which is ſeldom the caſe, that they may get the *flower*, as it is called, or the *firſt pail-full* of water from the well. The girl, who is ſo lucky as to obtain that prize, is thought to have more than a double chance for gaining the moſt accompliſhed young man in the pariſh. As they go to the well, they chant over nearly the words which are marked in the text. A race, ſuch as is mentioned in the poem, if not an affray of a more ſerious nature, oftimes takes place.

§ As the belief of witches, warlocks, &c. once very univerſally prevailed in *the land of cakes*, the cuſtom here mentioned may perhaps be conſidered as ſome remains of that ancient and popular ſuperſtition. It is ſuppoſed that the welfare and proſperity of every family,

An' thus they hail the mirrie year,
Wi' fun an' glad carouſin',
This happie night.

The mensfu' laſſies ſtan' abeigh,
An' think ae waught is plentie;
The wives, they arna ha'f fae ſkeigh,
But toom the horn, an' rant ay!—
But, ſee yon laſs, how out ſhe ſlips
Wi' yon gleg rattlin' callen;
An' now he prees her rolie lips
I' the nook, ayont the hallen,
Unſeen this night.

Frae year to year, ilk youker learns
His *handjel* now to gether-in:
On *Monday* mornin', a' the bairns
Through a' their friends are leatherin!
Whae'er they meet that winna draw,
Nae mercie for the cadet;
Around him bum the ba's o' ſnaw,
An' aft he's foundlie daudit,
Wi' glaur this day!

In ſocial key, the neebour wives
Gaung kimmerin' at eaſe:
That niggart carlin never thrives,
Wha hains her bread and cheeſe.
What clatterin' now is heard!—their mou
They pit the gude ſaut ham in;
An' ſometimes ane has been right ſou,
Whae ables gat a dram in,
Owre ſtrang that day!

Now, ſouple hempies to the green
Skelp aff wi' the fit-ba' *:
An bonnie laſſies, neat an' clean,
In Sunday dreſſes braw,
To mak the lads themſels exerr,
They on their joes are blinkin',
Wha, fleet as ſwallows, play their part,
An' owre the lee gaung linkin',
Fou blythe that day.

Then, wi' a joy-inſpir'd huzza,
The mountains ring aloud:
Round, like a rainbow, flees the ba'
Amang the eager croud.
In heartie buffits, ilka loun
His ſtrength an' vigour puts out:
To right an' left, an' up an' down,
They're like to daud the guts out
O' the ba' that day!

What cuffs an' kicks get barken'd ſhins
In this weel foughten quarrel!
An' monie a noſe, fair humblet, rins
Red-dreepin' like a barrel.
Fernyear, the lough was frozen o'er;
By chance they that gate flockit;
Craſh! gae the ice.—O! what a roar!
Whan they owre lugs war droukit,
Like ducks that day!

Whan night owre yearth begins to fa',
Auld gray hair'd carles ſu willin'
To tak their toothfu' gaung awa',
An' ware their orra ſhillin'.
Nae ſabbin ſorrows entrance get,
An' grief flees frae them linkin;
Even they deep drown'd in love or debt
Shun ilka care, whan drinkin
Fou blythe this night.

But now, if flee *John Barleycorn*
Get up into their head,
They mind na, as they toom the horn,
What bruilzies may ſucceed:
Whan they about the *court* contend,
Or *knottie points* o' ſcripture,
I've ſeen myſel, they, ere the end,
Maiſt breed a hallie rupture,
Wi' blude ſome night!

Nor is that a': for aft their *Maiks*
Do come their mirrie haunt in;
Shoarin' to gie them doolfu' paiks,
For ſic ungracious rantin!—
I mind fou weel, ae driftie night,
A thrawn, ill-natur'd carlin
Made her gudeman a wearie wight,
Wi' ſtraiks, while ſhe was harlin
Him hame that night!

'Tis better far, ere ſenſe depart,
To leave the reamin' nappie;
Than vex your wifies to the heart,
Wha elſe are onco happie.
For ye may play ſome rackleſs pranks,
Wi' owre ſevere a potion,

For

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family, eſpecially of the *fair* part of it, depend very much upon the perſon who is *firſt* admitted into the houſe on the beginning of the year. Hence, every *ſuſpected* perſon is carefully excluded; and the laſſies generally engage *before-hand* ſome *favoured* youth, who willingly comes, happy in being honoured with that ſignal mark of female diſtinction. Nor does he go empty handed: *het-pints* and *ſugar-biſcuit* are generally preſented at the ſhrine of *Venus*. A kiſs of the ſmiling goddeſs is, for the moſt part, the infallible token that his vows have been heard, and his offerings accepted.

* The foot-ball has long been a favourite amuſement of the active ſons of Caledonia. At the time here celebrated, it is cuſtomary for an equal number of young men, from two neighbouring pariſhes, to meet, and in preſence of the *Old* and *Fair*, on the level confines of the two domains, to diſpute the palm of victory, with no ſmall ſhare of ſkill and courage. A friendly feſtival, in the neighbouring *ale-houſe*, where libations are poured out in honour of *Bacchus*, generally cloſes the day.

For whilk ye may wear *Hangie*'s branks,
Or fail the *ſouthern* ocean,
Some luckleſs day!

Dear *Scotia*! land o' ſun an' fire,
An' ſweet an' cantie ſtrains!
Thy meaneſt, *ruſtic bard* inſpire,
On *Leithen*'s hills an' plains,
To paint the manners to the life
O' ſwains that to the hill gaung,
In native tongue, an' numbers rife
That ſweet as onie rill gaung
On ſimmer day.

*Inverleithen.* *J. N.*

*For the Edinburgh Magazine.*

## STANZAS

ADDRESSED TO WILLIAM ARCHBALD, ESQ.

IF now in yonder ſacred groves,
Thy Britiſh harp reſound no more,
Awake the ſtrains which Nature loves,
And breathe thy notes along the ſhore.

Deaf to the call of honeſt fame,
No more in dark oblivion lie,
But ſtill purſue, with glorious aim,
The path that leads thee to the ſky.

Lo! where the rich Arcadian ſcene
Demands the ſoftneſs of thy lay:
Amid theſe fairy haunts ſerene,
Thine eye from earth to heav'n may ſtray.

O waving woods, and ſoothing ſtreams!
O dark-green hills, and flow'ry plains!
Delightful fancy throws her beams
Athwart your unobſcure domains!

*College of Edinburgh.* *D. I.*

*For the Edinburgh Magazine.*

## DECEMBER.

——————*neque ullæ*
*Aut herbæ, campo apparent, aut arbore frondes;*
*Sed jacet aggeribus nivеis informis, et alto*
*Terra gelu late, ſeptemque aſſurgit in ulnas.*
VIRG. GEORG. III.

STERN Winter, riding on the northern blaſt,
Now ſways her iron ſceptre o'er the plain;
Diſhevell'd nature trembling ſtands aghaſt;—
The pallid ſun puts forth his rays in vain.

The caſt's unfretted curtains frown to yield,
Selvedg'd with nipping icicles impend;
The boulted ſnow beſtrews the naked field,—
The gelid cavern whiſtles to the wind.

The little brooks that in their channels play'd,
No more are ſeen to glitter down the ſteep;
Like the ſweet flow'rs that late their margins clad,
In ſnowy wreaths obſcur'd, ſupinely ſleep.

The ſad hiſtorian of ſweet ſummer paſt,
The famiſh'd ſongſter on the frozen ſpray,
Eſſays to ſpread his wings upon the blaſt,
To glean a ſcanty meal throughout the day.

Ah! who can tell how many a little heart,
Amid the ſtorm, low in the foreſt ſighs;
Sure is the hand divine that can impart
Relief, when Nature her bland ſtores denies.

Wrapt in her ſnowy mantle Nature ſleeps;
No pleaſing image wantons to the ſight:
Shrill on the blaſt the midnight ſpirit weeps,
And trembling day reſigns her reign to night!

Hark! how the tempeſt through the foreſt ſounds;
The lofty oak aſunder down is caſt;
The humble hawthorn in her lowly bounds,
With ruſſet fruit adorn'd, withſtands the blaſt.

Such is thy ſtate, vain man,—believe it true;
Say, what avail thy riches, pomp, and ſhews?
Alas! when life's ſtern winter knits the brow,
'Tis virtue only, like the thorn, that blows.

O ye, by fortune's choiceſt bleſſings crown'd,
Who know no cares, ſave what your follies make;
Who ſcarcely feel the pulſe of Nature bound,
Ah! think on thoſe that fortune does forſake.

Behold the wretch amid th' unpitying ſtorm,
Whoſe woe worn face has ſeen a better day;—
The tatter'd garb that wraps his ſhiv'ring form,—
His few grey hairs that with the tempeſt play.

—His languid eyes, that ſpeak his inward need;
Cruſh'd with the weight of years and endleſs grief;

From

From door to door he begs a little bread—
From hearts of ſtone, perhaps demands relief!

View well the picture—ſuch may yet be yours,—
The ſmiles of fortune frequently o'ercaſt;
I've ſeen the morning gild the ſylvan bow'rs,
That, long ere day, have bent beneath the blaſt.

As heav'n is kind to thee, be kind to thoſe
That friendleſs mourn—from every comfort barr'd—
Tho' no ſtern laws this precept do impoſe,
Yet gen'rous actions find their own reward.

*Edin. Dec. 13th*, 1800. *J. F. D.*

*For the Edinburgh Magazine.*

## ELEGY.

THE tears I ſhed muſt ever fall;
I weep not for an abſent ſwain,
For time can paſt delights recall,
And parted lovers meet again.

I weep not for the ſilent dead,
Their toils are paſt, their ſorrows o'er,
And thoſe they lov'd their ſteps ſhall tread,
And death ſhall join to part no more.

Tho' boundleſs oceans roll between,
If certain that his heart is near,
A conſcious tranſport glads the ſcene,
Soft is the ſigh, and ſweet the tear.

Ev'n when by death's cold hand remov'd,
We mourn the tenant of the tomb,
To think that ev'n in death he lov'd,
Can cheer the terrors of the gloom.

That bitter bitter is the tear
Of her who ſlighted love bewails,
No hopes her gloomy proſpect cheer,
No pleaſing melancholy hails.

Her's are the pangs of wounded pride,
Of blaſted hope, and withered joy:
The pr p ſhe lean'd on pierc'd her ſide,
The flame ſhe fed burns to deſtroy.

In vain does memory renew
The ſcenes once ting'd in tranſport's dye;
The ſad reverſe ſoon meets the view,
And turns the thoughts to agony.

Even conſcious virtue cannot cure,
The pang to every feeling due;
Ungenerous youth! thy boaſt how poor,
To ſteal a heart, and break it too.

Hope from its only anchor torn,
Neglected and neglecting all,
Friendleſs, forſaken, and forlorn,
The tears I ſhed muſt ever fall.

* *

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His Lordſhip then gave notice, that he would bring down to-morrow, at three o'clock, ſeveral papers and accounts relative to the importation of grain; and that it was his intention to move, at the ſame time, for a Select Committee, to take into conſideration that part of his Majeſty's Speech which relates to the preſent dearth of proviſions.

*Friday, Nov.* 14.

DEARTH OF PROVISIONS.

*Lord Grenville* preſented ſeveral documents chiefly relating to the importation of corn. He then moved the appointment of a Select Committee of their Lordſhips, to take into their immediate conſideration that part of his Majeſty's ſpeech which related to the dearth of proviſions.

*The Earl of Darnley* announced his intention of ſubmitting to the houſe, on Monday next, ſome propoſitions which ſtruck him forcibly on the ſubject. He wiſhed to fix that early day, as the ſubject required equally an immediate and a moſt ſerious conſideration. He concluded by moving that the Lords be ſummoned for Monday next.

*Lord Holland* obſerved that the preſent was an affair in which the people were naturally led to expect more from the Legiſlature than from the nature of the thing it could poſſibly do. As he conſidered it, all that the Committee could do, would be, to afford as much information as was poſſible upon the ſubject; to ſuggeſt practicable remedies, and above all, to remove all unjuſt prejudices which might obtain.

*The Earl of Warwick* hinted at an expedient, which was generally conceived to mean a *maximum* price of corn, and ſtated, that if the price ſhould be fixed at ten ſhillings the buſhel, the cauſes of complaint, on the part of the induſtrious poor, would ſpeedily vaniſh.

*Lord Grenville* ſaid, were the expedient practicable, of bringing all the growth of the laſt year's crop into the market at once, or in a very ſhort time, as ſome ſeemed to think deſirable, the meaſure would be injurious; it would prove only a temporary palliation, and in the event, would only increaſe the evil. He could not avoid obſerving, he ſaid, that that fatal word *maximum.* had been ſpoken, or what was equivalent to it, was ſuggeſted in the courſe of the debate. On that point, he muſt loudly, on behalf of the mercantile intereſts, every deſcription of proprietors of the country, and even of the exiſtence of civilized ſociety therein—interpoſe his own proteſt;—that of the Government, and, he truſted, he might ſay, that of the Parliament. Such a meaſure, he ſaid, would eventually ſacrifice every thing dear to men in civilized ſociety—for what was liberty—what was law—if the fundamental principles upon which the ſecurity of property reſted, were to be broken down and annihilated! he he held it his duty to make theſe obſervations, and his conviction that the application of ſuch a meaſure, ſo far from affording relief, would in fact entail upon the people the certainty of famine.

*The Earl of Moira* ſeemed to agree in what fell from the Noble Secretary of State, relative to the principle of a *maximum.*

*Lord Grenville* ſtated the general outline of what he thought the duty of the Committee ſhould be: the leading points of which were, that, in the firſt inſtance, they ſhould endeavour to meet the preſent preſſure, which he thought moſt practicable in the way of encouraging importations, and ſecuring economy in the conſumption.

*The Earl of Darnley* ſuggeſted ſome expedients, principally relating to economy in the conſumption of oats, by horſes.

*Lord Holland* moved for ſeveral papers reſpecting the communications betwixt Auſtria and France, and paid ſome compliments to Bonaparte and the French Government.

*Lord*

*Lord Grenville* ſaid, he did not wonder that the noble Lord ſhould make this motion; it ſeemed to be intended to do away the impreſſion which the publication of the correſpondence between this country and France upon the ſubject of the negociation muſt have made upon the minds of their Lordſhips, as well as upon all others who had an opportunity of reading them; but he ſhould be much ſurprized indeed, if either the preſent, or any other motion, ſhould have that effect, The general topics introduced by the noble Lord he did not conſider ſuch as to call for any ſpecific anſwer. He would only affirm that the Noble Lord had been, as uſual, a greater advocate for the juſtification of the French than they had hitherto been for themſelves.

*Lord Holland* knew of no conſtitutional authority which either the noble Secretary of State, or any other individual, had to call in queſtion the motives, or to impute to a member of the legiſlature a deſire of ſerving the cauſe of the enemy, while he was in the exerciſe of a privilege which the conſtitution gave him.

The motion was put and negatived.

*Monday, Nov.* 17.

The order of the day for the Houſe being ſummoned having been read,

*Lord Darnley* ſaid, as he felt he was not likely to meet with ſupport among their Lordſhips, he ſhould wave ſuggeſting thoſe propoſitions, which alone appeared to him calculated to prove an immediate relief, ſo abſolutely wanted, in reducing the price of proviſions; he very much doubted the reality of the ſcarcity, and conſidered all the meaſures which tended to impreſs that being the fact as calculated to enhance the prices. He inſiſted there was a material difference between the laſt and the preceding ſeaſon, and ſeemed confident that the reſolutions which that Houſe had come to, for the purpoſe of reducing the conſumption, had been generally diſregarded; therefore, if ſuch a meaſure was neceſſary, there muſt be an abſolute law to inforce it; however, feeling as he did, he ſhould not at preſent make any motion upon the ſubject.

The *Earl of Warwick* did not conſider the mode Miniſters intended to recommend was likely to prove a ſufficient remedy. This great evil, in his opinion, was the exorbitant profits of the farmers. He underſtood, that ſome farmers admitted they could afford to let one-third of their land lie fallow, and yet play Guinea Whiſt, and drink brandy mixed with their wine. His Lordſhip did not believe the ſcarcity to be near ſo great as was repreſented; nor did he believe it would be poſſible to procure any thing like a true account of the quantity in the country, becauſe the application muſt be made to thoſe who were intereſted in concealing the fact. The opinions he had expreſſed were grounded upon the fulleſt conviction in his own mind, and theſe he had no heſitation to repeat. He was of opinion, that a Law enacted to oblige the farmers to bring their Wheat to market at a certain price, as a temporary meaſure, would be attended with the moſt beneficial effects, and fully meet the evil.

The *Lord Chancellor*, in ſtrong and energetic language, reprobated the idea of reſorting to the principle of *Maximum* on ſuch occaſion as the preſent—it was dangerous in the extreme to hold forth ſuch doctrines, or to inculcate that even the ſmalleſt proportion of relief was to be expected from their application. He would requeſt the Houſe to conſider the propoſition—it would operate by means purely compulſory; it would oblige a numerous claſs of men, at the command of the law, to give up their property at a given price. This was what he could never accede to. Not only the final operation of ſuch a terrible and fatal law, as that alluded to, would be compulſory; but from the very nature of its principle, every circumſtance connected with it muſt be coercive. How was it to be carried into effect—by means of an inquiſition in the firſt inſtances.—Stock muſt be taken, and that very ſpecies of property upon which the farmer, his family, and labourers principally ſubſiſted, was to be rendered liable to the moſt grievous operations. In no record of hiſtory, ancient, or modern, was there an inſtance to be found, where ſuch a meaſure was beneficial. He believed the noble Lord ſpoke from the conviction of his own mind, and the warmth he diſplayed was highly creditable to his feelings: at the ſame time he felt it his duty to caution the Houſe of the danger of entertaining, even for a moment, ſuch deſtructive principles, the mere alluſion to which muſt have the reverſe to a beneficial tendency. His

Lordſhip

Lordſhip was very ſorry to hear theſe kind of charges thrown out againſt the farmers in ſuch general terms; for although there might be individuals of that claſs ſo thoughtleſs and extravagant as to drink their wine mixed with brandy, and to play at Guinea-Whiſt, there were numbers of them who were of a very different deſcription, who were known to act with the greateſt benevolence to their labourers whom they employed, thoſe living engines of their huſbandry, and whom they were careful ſhould be provided with ſufficient nouriſhment.——Adjourned till to-morrow.

The following is a correct Liſt of the Peers who form the Committee appointed to inquire, relative to the preſent dearth of proviſions, &c. Dukes of Somerſet, Bedford, Portland, and Montroſe; Earls of Winchelſea, Eſſex, Fitzwilliam, Egremont, Hardwicke, Camden, Liverpool, and Offory; Biſhops of Durham and Cheſter; Lords Grenville, Hobart, Romney, Carrington, and Bolton.

*Tueſday* and *Wedneſday* buſineſs unimportant.

*Thurſday, Nov.* 20.

At four o'clock Lord Nelſon came down to the Houſe, and being robed, was introduced between Lords Grenville and Romney, and took his ſeat by the title of Lord Nelſon of the Nile. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, as Hereditary Earl Marſhal, preceded his Lordſhip in and out of the Houſe, which was attended by a great number of Peers to receive and congratulate him.

*Friday, Nov.* 21.

A number of witneſſes were ſworn at the bar, reſpecting their evidence before the ſelect Committee on the Dearth of Proviſions.

*Monday, Nov.* 24.

The bills to prevent the exportation of Rice till the 1ſt of Nov. 1801, and to authoriſe the King from time to time to prohibit the exportation of proviſions, received the Royal Aſſent by commiſſion.

*Nov.* 25, 26, and 27.

The bills on their Lordſhips table were forwarded without diſcuſſion or diviſion.

*Friday, November* 28.

The Scotch corn importation bill, and the bill to prohibit the uſe of corn for brewing, were read a third time.

*Earl Camden* brought up the report from the Corn Committee, and briefly ſtated its principal heads, which went to recommend the adoption of the greateſt economy in the uſe of wheaten flour, and to encourage the mixing with it pea, barley, or rye flour, in the making of bread: The grinding of it ſo mixed, he ſaid, was perfectly legal at preſent, provided its real quality was ſpecified when offered for ſale. The report went alſo to the encouragement of the importation of foreign wheat; and propoſed an humble addreſs to his Majeſty, praying him to iſſue his Royal Proclamation for the above purpoſes. The report being read, was ordered to be printed.

The addreſs that was ſent up from the Houſe of Commons was then read; and Lord Camden moved, that the blank be filled up with the words "Lords Spiritual and Temporal."

The queſtion for making the addreſs as from both Houſes of Parliament was then put and agreed to.

Adjourned to Monday.

[The firſt report from the Committee appointed to conſider of the preſent high price of proviſions is ſo long that our limits will not admit inſerting it. We are, however, happy to ſay, that this report is very conſolatory.

The deficiency in the crop of Wheat in England and Wales appears to be not quite ſo much as one fourth below an average crop; and Barley and Oats, though not uniformly good, cannot, upon the whole, be conſidered as materially inferior to an average crop.

The Committee likewiſe think it probable, that the produce is more likely to be ſtated below than above the truth. The quality of every deſcription of grain is, upon the whole, greatly ſuperior to that of laſt year. The report is not only conſolatory with reſpect to the general circumſtances of the country, but ſuggeſts ideas which, when brought into effect by the wiſdom of Parliament, and the good ſenſe and proper feeling of the country at large, will not only open the proſpect of ſurmounting the temporary difficulties under which we labour, but of placing us upon a footing of greater independence in future with reſpect to our ſubſiſtence.]

*Monday Dec.* 1.

Notices were given of ſeveral motions.

*Tueſday Dec.* 2.

*The Duke of Bedford* in purſuance of notice

notice, roſe to call the attention of the Houſe to the ſcarcity of proviſions, which, it appeared, was much greater than was at firſt imagined. The moſt effectual means, he ſaid, for diminiſhing the conſumption of wheat was œconomy and the uſe of ſubſtitutes. The orderly conduct of the people, under the hardſhips they had undergone, ſurely merited all the attention that Parliament could pay to their ſituation.

The Commons' Committee had recommended that an inferior kind of bread ſhould be given to the parochial poor in lieu of money. He did not ſee how that plan could be carried into effect in the manner recommended, and ſhould therefore move, "that their Lordſhips' Committee be inſtructed to take that part of the Commons' report into their conſideration."

*Lord Grenville* had no particular objection to the motion, but ſuggeſted that farther information might better enable the Houſe to form an opinion on the ſubject. His Grace acquieſced, and withdrew his motion.

*Wedneſday, Dec.* 3.

The Lord Chancellor delivered the King's anſwer to the addreſs of the two Houſes, intimating that a proclamation would be iſſued in terms and to the effect recommended.

*Thurſday, Dec.* 4.

No buſineſs of importance.

*Friday, Dec.* 5.

*Earl Warwick* expreſſed his opinion that the Reports of the two Committees on the ſcarcity of Corn could not be drawn from certain information. He did not think the deficiency of the crop amounted to one-fourth, nor had he an idea of what could be called an average crop. He wiſhed not to attack real property, but ſurely property obtained by tricking and fraud was not ſacred. He was not the enemy of the farmers; he thought them a moſt uſeful body of men; but the middle men, the jobbers and factors, that non-deſcript race who ſtood between the grower and conſumer, were the peſts of ſociety. He wiſhed therefore to propoſe a motion to direct the Magiſtrates, for a limited time, and from time to time, to take an account of the quantity of corn grown and ready for ſale in their reſpective diſtricts, to fix the price of the ſame, and alſo to fix the price of agricultural labour. He knew that this would be called trenching on property, that it was a novel idea, and that it was an attack upon the freedom of the ſubject; but were there not precedents for ſuch entrenchments; and did not an extraordinary emergency demand extraordinary meaſures? The ſcarcity, whether real or artificial, was moſt ſeverely felt, and muſt be counteracted. The queſtion was, therefore, which was the beſt and moſt effectual means of counteracting it? They all ſaw the effect, and it became their duty to apply an adequate remedy. His Lordſhip concluded with moving, "That the Magiſtrates in every county ſhould, from the 10th of December inſtant, to the 10th of June 1801, fix the market price of corn, according to ſuch evidence as ſhould be laid before them; and alſo fix the price of agriculture."

*Lord Grenville* ſaid, that he had not the ſmalleſt doubt but that the Noble Earl was actuated by a conſcientious point of what he thought his duty, or he certainly would not have come forward with a propoſition directly in the teeth of the known opinion of the Houſe. The preſent diſtreſs, which it had pleaſed Providence to inflict upon us, every man felt, and muſt be anxious to alleviate the ſufferings in which it involved the poorer claſſes of the people; but in the attempt care muſt be taken not to adopt a remedy worſe than the diſeaſe. He ſhould, therefore, ſay no more in reſpect to the motion, than that he gave it his decided negative, as the agitation of ſuch a ſubject did infinite miſchief.

The motion was negatived. Adjourned to Monday.

*Monday, Dec.* 8.

The following received the royal aſſent, by commiſſion, the bill to continue the duties on malt, mum, cyder, perry, penſions, offices, perſonal eſtates, ſugar, tobacco, &c. for the ſervice of the year 1801. The bill to ſuſpend the duties on hops imported till the 20th of Auguſt 1801; the bill to prohibit, till January 1ſt, 1802, the uſe of corn in diſtilling ſpirits, or making ſtarch; the bill to prohibit the exportation of proviſions, to allow the uſe of ſugar in brewing beer, to reduce the duties on ſpirits diſtilled from molaſſes and ſugar, and to prohibit the making of low wines and ſpirits from wheat, &c. in Scotland; the bill for ſhortening, till the 25th of March 1801, the term of keeping in ſtore for making

making barley damaged by rain in the late harveſt; and the bill for the better relief of the poor.

*Tueſd.* 9. *Wed.* 10. *Thurſd.* 11. and *Frid.* 12. The buſineſs during theſe days unimportant.

## *HOUSE OF COMMONS.*

*Wedneſday, Nov.* 12.

Bills for ſtopping the diſtillation from grain, and for preventing the making of ſtarch and the exportation of proviſions, were preſented and read a firſt time. After ſome converſation on the report of the Addreſs, Mr Tierney gave notice that he would on this day fortnight move for an enquiry into the ſtate of the nation, and that the Houſe ſhould be called over on that day. Mr Pitt and Sir W. Young oppoſed the motion, which was negatived by 104 to 34.

In a Committee on the Corn bounties, Mr Ryder moved that the price of corn be weekly aſcertained and publiſhed in the London Gazette. The following reſolutions, moved by Mr Ryder, were adopted:—That the amount of the indemnification to be granted to the importers of foreign corn, be regulated by the average price of the market, on the third week after importation. The bounties offered are in the following proportions:—

"That there be granted on every quarter of ſuperfine wheat, from the preſent period to the 1ſt of October 1801, an adequate indemnification to make the purchaſe equal to the ſum of one hundred ſhillings—on fine wheat 80s.—on barley 45s.—on rye 65s.—of ſuperfine wheaten flour, per barrel, 70s.—on oats 30s.—on Eaſt India rice 32s.—on American do. 35s."

*Thurſday, Nov.* 13.

The papers relative to the negociation were preſented, and the Houſe proceeded to St James's with their addreſs.

*Friday, Nov.* 14.

The Speaker obſerved, that the functions of the Britiſh Parliament as a diſtinct legiſlative body, muſt terminate with the 31ſt of December, and that therefore all proceedings on private bills which ſhould not be completed by that time, would be annulled. A bill for encouraging the importation of corn was read a firſt time.

*Mr Jones* gave notice of a motion relative to the war for this day fortnight. The proviſion bills brought in on Wedneſday were read a firſt time. Mr Abbot gave notice of a bill to aſcertain the population of Great Britain. Mr Sheridan gave notice that he ſhould on Monday next move for ſome additional documents relative to the negociation with France.

*Saturday, Nov.* 15.

The Bills on the table were forwarded. Mr Tierney moved for an account of the amount of the Income Tax. The motion was negatived on the ground that no accurate account could yet be returned.

*Monday, Nov.* 17.

*Mr Sheridan* deferred his motion for further information relative to the negociation with France to Thurſday. A petition was preſented by Mr Sheridan from the inhabitants of Stafford, complaining of the high price of bread, which they attributed rather to the foul practices of individuals than to actual ſcarcity, the harveſt having been plentiful with them. Referred to a Committee. In a Committee of Supply, Mr Roſe moved that 120,000 men, including 22,696 marines, be voted for the ſea ſervice for three months from January 1ſt, with the uſual allowances for pay, victualing, tear and wear of ſhips, ordnance, &c. Agreed to.

*Tueſday, Nov.* 18.

*Mr Pitt* ſaid, he underſtood that ſome gentlemen wiſhed to know whether he intended to make any motion relative to the official correſpondence with France.—He did not. The papers ſpoke for themſelves.

*Mr Sheridan* gave notice that he would on Monday move a ſpecific reſolution on the ſubject.

*Mr Grey* moved for accounts of the quantity of grain, &c. purchaſed for the uſe of government ſince the commencement of the war—an account of the quantity of animal food (ſpecifying the kind) conſumed by the army and navy during the ſame period; alſo for an account of the number of men raiſed for the army and navy during the war; of the number diſcharged, of the number killed in action, and of the number actually ſerving according to the lateſt returns.—Ordered.

*Wedneſday, Nov.* 19.

DISTILLERIES.

The Bill to allow a certain drawback to Diſtillers, on account of certain articles uſed for malting, which were ſpoil-

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ed during the late harveſt, was read a firſt time: as was alſo the Bill to explain and amend the Act 22 George III. for the better Relief of the Poor.

The Houſe went into a Committee on the Corn Diſtillery Prohibition Bill.

*Mr Roſe* propoſed that the termination of this Act ſhould be fixed to the 1ſt of January 1802, and that the reſtrictive clauſe ſhould be left out; which was agreed to.

STATE OF POPULATION.

*Mr Abbot* roſe to make a motion on this ſubject, of which he had given previous notice. His intended motion had a proſpective regard to future years, with all the poſſible conſequences attending them; and in order to aſcertain, whether a large increaſing Population had been the cauſe why, for about 30 years paſt, an Exporting Country had been obliged to have recourſe to her neighbours. If it ſhould ſo turn out, his motion would likewiſe ſerve to ſhew us the degree to which the extenſion of Agriculture ought in future to be carried. In the Reign of HENRY III. there had been a Subſidy Roll, from which it appeared that the Population in England amounted to only three millions and a half of people. At the preſent time, he believed the Population of England was little ſhort of Eleven Millions. With reſpect to Scotland, in the year 1755, a private enumeration was made, but he might almoſt ſay by authority. It appeared, that ſince that period nearly one-fourth had been added to the Population. In Ireland, the public opinion fluctuates upon this ſubject. With regard to the mode of accompliſhing this inquiry, he thought it was very obvious and eaſy. His object was to propoſe certain queſtions, to be ſent to the Clergy and Pariſh Officers. They already almoſt knew the Population of their reſpective bounds, and, with a little more exertion, it certainly could be obtained. On theſe grounds, he moved, that leave be given to bring in a Bill to aſcertain the Population of Great Britain.

*Mr Wilberforce*, after paying various compliments to the Hon. Gentleman who made the motion, declared he much approved of it. Both from reaſon and neceſſity he conſidered it adviſable to adopt it.

Leave was given to bring in the Bill.

*Thurſday, Nov. 20.*

*Mr Abbot* brought in a Bill to aſcertain the population of Great Britain; which was read a firſt time.

MOTION FOR PAPERS.

*Mr Sheridan* roſe to make his promiſed motion, and after animadverting warmly on the conduct of Miniſters, and ſtating that the Conſtitution had never been ſo much infringed as by them, he adverted to the failure of the Expedition in Holland, and to what he termed the ſcandalous expedition at Ferrol, and the ſtill more ſcandalous one of Cadiz, which loudly demanded a national inquiry. After all thoſe repeated failures, which the Right Hon. Gentleman himſelf (Mr Pitt) would have highly cenſured, had they happened during any other Adminiſtration but his own, it was incumbent on Miniſters to prove to the people they had been ſincere in their overtures for peace; which was the more to be doubted, as they themſelves had allowed that the general voice was for peace, yet had congratulated the people on the failure of the negociation: he ſaid that they did not diſcharge their duty to their country, if they ſecretly inſtigated the Emperor to continue the war, notwithſtanding their ſeeming wiſh for the reſtoration of general tranquillity. Mr Sheridan concluded by moving, that "an humble Addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, begging him to direct the following papers to be laid before the Houſe:—A Copy of the articles ſigned by Count St Julien at Paris, and by him termed Preliminaries of Peace. A copy of Lord Minto's letter to the court of Vienna. A copy of the anſwer of his Majeſty the Emperor of Germany to the Court of London. A copy of ſeveral papers ſigned by Baron Thugut and tranſmitted by Lord Minto. A copy of the paper in which the Emperor ſays, he will not treat without us. A copy of the powers given to Sir Sidney Smith. A copy of letters and extracts from Conſtantinople, relative to the evacuation of Egypt. A copy of Proclamations ſigned by Sir Sidney Smith, and diſtributed in the French army. A copy of Sir Sidney Smith's account of the Convention of El Ariſch. A copy of any new power granted to him to ratify any treaties. A copy of Sir Sidney Smith's account of the failure of that treaty; as alſo a copy of the letters between Gen. Kleber and him."

*Mr Pitt* adverted to the apparent zeal manifeſted by Mr Sheridan for the pub-

lic good in ſome inſtances, and magnanimity he ſhewed on two occaſions, by the ready warmth of his natural impulſe, which prompted him to ſupport the Government; expreſſed himſelf not a little ſurprized to find him on that night ſo inconſiſtent with himſelf, and ſo much at variance with his ſentiments. "It cannot be denied that the Hon. Gentleman has more than once ſhewn diſpoſition in ſeaſons of alarm, of national difficulty and danger, to come frankly forward, and diveſting himſelf of *party ſophiſtry*, to ſupport Government in the meaſures which appeared to it beſt calculated to deliver from impending evil, and to ſecure the general ſafety. But as the Hon. Gentleman, has thought fit to be ſo inconſiſtent, and move for papers, the irrelevancy and the inutility of which are ſo ſelf-evident, it is my reſolution to give him a conſiſtency he did not deſerve, without taking any credit to himſelf for the obligation.—Ever ſince the acceſſion of the Chief Conſul to power, the Court of Vienna has manifeſted one uniform principle not to treat with France, but in conjunction with this country.—In the whole of theſe papers, there is not a ſingle alluſion or hint that ever his Imperial Majeſty has been inclined to treat for a ſeparate peace; and that even to the very hour of the battle of Marengo; that battle which, by one of thoſe viciſſitudes attendant upon war, placed a proud conqueror in poſſeſſion of a ſplendid victory. Yet that battle, that victory, never changed the ſentiments of that Court; and ſuch is my idea of the ſtrength of the reſources of our auguſt ally, that were I called in to give advice to him, I would preſs him to continue the war, notwithſtanding that battle; and I would, from the cordial and ſolemn dictates of my heart, affirm to him, that nothing ſhort of a bold and decided oppoſition can ſave his country or him, much leſs that of a ſeparate peace. But it has ſo happened, that the magnanimous and determined honour of his Majeſty the Emperor wanted no ſuch impulſe, for tiſs very day his ſentiments have been received to that effect, under date of the 4th of this inſt. November, wherein his Majeſty decidedly declares he will enter into no negociation but in conjunction with the King of Great Britain. After all the unforeſeen diſappointments of apparently the beſt-founded hopes, I will affirm no ſuch thing as that Auſtria may not at ſome future time make a ſeparate peace; but I will aver what I know to be true, that the ſtatement which I have now made is accurate. Now, ſhall I be called upon to prove this by agreeing to produce the papers which are now moved for? They are not like papers peculiarly our own, and which come from our own public offices, but are confidential communications of one of our allies, and contain details which belong not to us, but which entirely relate to the affairs of others. Would it be proper to make public ſuch details? We know not what may happen to Auſtria, and how injurious it might prove to her intereſts in particular circumſtances, which it is certainly poſſible may exiſt, to have ſome of the details ſubjected to the public eye, as it would afford to any other power the means of aſcertaining the views on which the acts, and the reſources which ſhe poſſeſſes. It is the very ſoul of an alliance, that all ſuch confidential communications ſhould be kept ſecret. I would aſk any Gentleman, who conſiders the difference between the Auſtrian Government and that of England, if this country could ever expect any future confidence from Auſtria, ſhould we now violate the confidence which ſhe has at preſent repoſed in us? Now, as to the motions which call for the Papers relative to the convention for the evacuation of Egypt, I ſhall merely ſay, that any perſon who heard the diſcuſſion which took place on this ſubject two nights ago, muſt be convinced that this country acted not only with the ſtricteſt good faith, but with great liberality and generoſity.

*Mr Pitt* proceeded then to ſtate that this he hoped would ſatisfy the Houſe on the remaining object which could poſſibly induce the Hon. Gentleman to move for theſe papers, viz. the want of faith in the court of Vienna, which was directly contradicted by the diſpatches of this day, and therefore ſufficient to perſuade the Houſe to reject the motion.

*Mr Hobhouſe* defended Mr Sheridan from the accuſation of inconſiſtency, in contending that any other mode of procedure, on his part, would be inconſiſtent in the extreme.

*Mr Nicholls*, though he generally voted with Mr Sheridan, found it impoſſible to ſupport the preſent motion; the

the arguments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer he conceived to be unanſwerable; the production of the papers would be moſt unjuſt and injurious.

*Dr Lawrence* concurred in opinion with Mr Nicholls, as they would only ſerve to irritate and thwart the accompliſhment of peace.

*Mr Johnſtone* ſaid, it was unkind to make charges againſt the conduct of the Officers at Cadiz and Ferrol in their abſence.

*Mr I. Hawkins Browne* ſaid, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had fairly ſtated his reaſons againſt a compliance with this motion. It would doubtleſs be a great breach of confidence with reſpect to our Allies, were the correſpondence to be diſcloſed, which was carried on between our Court and that of Vienna. He would therefore give his hearty negative to the motion.

*Mr Sheridan* explained what he ſaid of Ferrol, as not intending the leaſt injury to the character of the Gentleman alluded to (Sir J. M. Pulteney.) He paid ſome high compliments to Sir Sidney Smith, charged Miniſters with forcing the Emperor to continue the war, and concluded with obſerving, that if he had accuſed him of breach of faith, he was juſtified therein by the treaty of Campo Formio. He had been coldly complimented with having yielded to the momentary indulgencies of his nature, in giving a temporary ſupport to Miniſters. He muſt ſay, however, that his diſintereſted conduct had not been received by the Right Honourable Gentleman in a manner the moſt gracious. If he gave way to ſuch "indulgencies," it was with a view to ſerve his country; but he perceived that the Right Hon. Gentleman could not bear that any perſon ſhould endeavour to ſerve his country, if, at the ſame time, he ſtood aloof from that Gentleman. Mr Sheridan ſaid, he had now been a politician for the ſpace of twenty-five years, and twenty of thoſe he had been a Member of that Houſe; and during the whole of that time, he declared, that he had never given a vote but in favour of Liberty, and the Rights of Mankind. He then proceeded to examine that part of the correſpondence which related to General Kleber's Convention at El Ariſch, for the evacuation of Egypt by the French army, and inſiſted that Miniſters had given a falſe repreſentation of the contents of General Kleber's letter to the Kaimakan on that ſubject.

*Mr Martin* was againſt the motion.

*Mr Dundas* roſe to ſtate one fact, in oppoſition to the Hon. Gentleman's argument, ſtating diſtinctly his intention of evacuating Egypt. Mr Dundas ſaid, he was poſitively convinced, that when Kleber wrote the letter in queſtion, it was his full intention to execute the Treaty of El Ariſh, and he firmly believed that event would have happened, if Kleber had not been in the firſt inſtance prevented by his own Government, and afterwards murdered. On this ground it was, that Lord Grenville, in his anſwer to M. Otto, aſſigned as a reaſon why we were not warranted to allow ſupplies to be ſent to Egypt, after Gen. Kleber, poſſeſſing full power to bind his Government, undertook to execute the Treaty of El Ariſh.

The queſtion was then negatived without a diviſion.

*Friday, Nov 21.*

*Mr Windham* moved, in a Committee of Supply, the ſum of 600,000l. to defray the expence of foreign corps, which was agreed to.

He then moved that the military ſervice of regulars for the enſuing year be 58,508 men, including marines, the expence 562,000l. which was agreed to.

The following ſums were then voted:

| | |
|---|---|
| Barracks, building and repairs | £.35,000 |
| Guards and garriſons - | 562,000 |
| In the Plantations, Portugal, Cape of Good Hope, and New South Wales - | 53,333 |
| Militia - - - - - - | 374,000 |
| Subſiſtence - - - - - | 110,000 |
| Contingents - - - - - | 127,000 |

All of which were agreed to.

In a Committee of Ways and Means, were voted the land and malt, from 23d January 1801 to the ſame day 1802, and all the old laws to continue for one year longer.

*Mond. Nov. 24.*

*Mr William Dundas* brought in the bill for the relief of the poor of Edinburgh, by aſſeſſment, and the appointment of truſtees, which was read a firſt and ordered to be read a ſecond time on Friday next.

On the laſt queſtion being put,

*Mr Tierney* ſuggeſted whether this mode of proceeding was not too precipitate. He had before ſtated his doubts whether the people of Edinburgh were

as unanimous in favour of the meaſure as had been repreſented; and if they were averſe to it, this arrangement would not allow them ſufficient time to ſend up their petitions.

*Mr William Dundas* replied, that the Hon. Gentleman went merely upon a ſuppoſition, which, on enquiry, would appear to be unfounded; beſides, ſufficient time had been given ſince the firſt notice for any oppoſition being made, had it been intended.

*Tueſday Nov.* 25.

The bill for aſcertaining the population of Great Britain was read a ſecond time, and ordered for a Committee on Friday next.

*Wedneſday Nov.* 26.

*Mr Ryder* moved the order of the day for the Houſe to reſolve itſelf into a Committee of the whole Houſe to conſider of the report of the Corn Committee— which was agreed to.

*Mr Bragge* in the chair.

*Mr Ryder* ſaid, that what he had to propoſe, was, that both Houſes ſhould concur in an addreſs to his Majeſty, praying that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to iſſue his proclamation, in order to give the moſt extenſive circulation to the meaſures recommended, through every part of the kingdom.—He then moved the addreſs, which was unanimouſly agreed to.—He then moved for leave to bring in a bill for making better proviſion for the poor, and diminiſhing the conſumption of corn, by the mode of diſtributing parochial relief, which was alſo agreed to *nem. con.*

*Thurſday Nov.* 27.

*Mr Tierney* roſe, and in a ſpeech which occupied nearly four hours in the delivery, made his promiſed motion, "That the Houſe ſhould reſolve itſelf into a Committee to enquire into the ſtate of the nation."

He commenced by ſtating, that in this motion he was ſolely impelled by his duty, although he did not augur much, from the diſpoſition manifeſted on the Treaſury ſide, that he ſhould ſucceed. Since the year 1796, no attempt of this kind was made; and, after a trial of eight years, Miniſters were not yet regularly called upon to account for the misfortunes which, in regular ſucceſſion, had occurred through their miſmanagement, during that period.

He then went ſucceſſively into the three points of the argument which he ſhould adopt, viz. the conduct of the war; the ſituation of this country with regard to its foreign relations; and finally, the reſult of all theſe. As to the former, he conſidered it one ſeries of diſaſters, which he enumerated from the firſt landing of our troops on the Continent in 1793, till the failure of the expedition to Ferrol. He went into a moſt laboured hiſtory of all our expeditions, and contended, that they were every one hazardous, unfortunate, diſaſtrous, and inglorious; upon theſe topics he diſcanted with much warmth, and ſaid that for ten years after a peace, ſuppoſing one to take place in one year, the permanent taxation, taking in 5,000,000l. for poors rates, would amount, annually, to upwards of 38,000,000l.; from whence he contended that either Miniſters muſt be diſmiſſed, or the country would be undone. He then made the motion as above ſtated, which was ſeconded by Mr Sheridan.

*Mr Pitt* immediately roſe, and obſerved, that a Committee on the ſtate of the nation was that which, for the laſt hundred years, had very rarely been moved, and ſtill more rarely complied with. The inſtances, when it led to any practical advantage were fewer ſtill: after which, he proceeded to reply to every point of that Gentleman's ſpeech, in one of the moſt eloquent, argumentative, and impreſſive orations we ever heard him deliver in that Houſe; and concluded by obſerving, that the principal grounds of argument adopted by Mr Tierney were not attainable, and that nothing but ſophiſtry could ſupport them; that the circumſtances of the times were not ſuch as to call for a Committee of Inquiry into the State of the Nation; that ſuch a proceeding was wholly impracticable, calculated to encourage the hopes of the enemy, to diſſeminate groundleſs fears, and to awaken deſpondency in the minds of the people, without producing any real advantage to the country; that all the poſitions in ſupport of it were vague and deluſory, and that a Committee of the Houſe were already engaged on the only practical good that could at preſent flow to ſociety; namely, an inquiry into the preſent high price of proviſions. Under theſe impreſſions he ſhould oppoſe the motion of the Hon. Gentleman.

At two o'clock on Friday morning the

the Houſe divided, and the numbers appeared as follows:

For the motion of Inquiry, 37
Againſt it, 157. Majority, 120.

*Friday, Nov.* 28.

In a Committee of the whole Houſe on the bill for granting bounties on foreign grain, when it came to the article of oats, a converſation took place on the ſubject, in which

*Mr Harriſon*, *Sir William Pulteney*, and others, contended, that, from the information they had received from Glaſgow and other places in Scotland, it would be in vain to expect any advantage from the importation of oats unleſs the bounty was 40s.

*Mr Pitt* and *Mr Ryder* were of opinion that 35s. was a ſufficient bounty.

*Mr Secretary Dundas* thought, that as the information was ſo very various, as well as the opinions of the Gentlemen in the Committee on the ſubject, the beſt way would be to paufe on the buſineſs till more complete information could be received.

*Mr Pitt* acceded to this, and ſaid, that if the information could be had in the courſe of a few days, and was convincing that the bounty ought to be 40s. the bill might be recommitted, and the alteration made in the ſame bill; if the information did not arrive before the bill was re-committed, then a ſeparate bill might be brought in to attain the object, if neceſſary. The Houſe reſumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday next.

*Monday, Dec.* 1.

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH POOR-BILL.

This bill was read a ſecond time, and referred to a Select Committee, conſiſting of Mr W. Dundas, Mr Secretary Dundas, Sir William Pulteney, and other Scots Members. On a motion it was ordered that all have voices who attend the Committee,

MOTION RELATIVE TO THE LATE NEGOCIATION.

*Mr Sheridan* moved an humble addreſs to his Majeſty, praying him to omit no opportunity, conſiſtent with the good faith of the country, and the dignity of his Majeſty's Crown, for entering into a ſeparate negociation with France for a ſpeedy and honourable peace. And further, that his Majeſty would be pleaſed not to enter into a new foreign engagement which may prove a bar to ſeparate negociation.

The Houſe divided:—For the motion 35; againſt it, 156. Majority, 121.

*Tuesday, Dec.* 1.

A meſſage was received from the Lords, communicating to the Houſe the pleaſure of his Majeſty to receive their addreſs at two o'clock to-morrow; and deſiring that Houſe to appoint ſome of their Members to accompany two of the Lords appointed to carry the addreſs to the King. Four Members were accordingly appointed.

*Wednesday, Dec.* 3.

*The Speaker* came to the Houſe at four o'clock, when there being no more than 36 Members, it was of courſe adjourned till to-morrow.

*Thursday, Dec.* 4.

MOTION FOR DISMISSING MINISTERS.

*Mr Jones*, after obſerving what had fallen during this ſhort Seſſion from his Majeſty's Miniſters, that they were determined to carry on the war, right or wrong, ſo was he reſolved to ſubmit a motion this night, which ſhould, if carried, prevent them. He then moved, "That an humble Addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, earneſtly imploring his Majeſty, that, taking into his Royal conſideration the ſufferings of his loyal and affectionate people, he will be graciouſly pleaſed no longer to liſten to the councils of his preſent Miniſters, who, by their profuſion and extravagance, have brought their country to the brink of Famine and Ruin; and who by their incapacity have ſhewn themſelves unequal to conduct the war with effect, or enter into negociations of Peace with honour."

No member in the habit of ſupporting Government took any part in the debate.

The Houſe divided:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For the Motion | - | 13 |
| Againſt it, | - - | 66 |
| Majority, | | 53 |

*Friday, Dec.* 5.

*Mr Nichols*, after making ſome obſervations on the quantity of ſpecie, moved, "That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the ſtate of the gold coin, and to report thereon to the Houſe."

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For the Motion, | - | 16 |
| Againſt it, | - - | 32 |
| Majority, | | 16 |

*Monday, Dec.* 8.

*Mr Long* moved, that a ſum not exceeding 151,643l. 16s. 8d. be granted to his

his Majesty, to make good the same sum paid for the interest of Exchequer Bills in 1799. Agreed to.

The Bill in the House of Commons for granting bounties on the Importation of Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, Meal, Pease, Beans, and Indian Corn, was read a third time and passed, after an amendment, that 364lb. avoirdupois weight of Meal be equal to a quarter.

*Tuesday, Dec.* 9.

*Mr Wilberforce* presented a petition from the Mayor and Corporation of Leeds, stating the distresses of the poor in that town, and the inability of the manufacturers to dispose of their manufactures or give sufficient employment to the poor, and praying for relief. He then moved that it should be referred to the Committee appointed to consider the present high price of provisions.

The question was put and carried.

*Wednesday, Dec.* 10.

*The Attorney General* stated, that as the act for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act would expire on February next, he meant to move to-morrow for leave to bring in a bill for the continuance of the said Act, for a very short time, that an opportunity might be afforded to the Imperial Parliament to take the subject into full consideration.

*Thursday, Dec.* 11.

*The Attorney General* moved for leave to bring in a bill for continuing the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus Act*.

The House divided; for the motion 51. Against it 13. Majority in favour of it 38.

Leave was given to bring in the Bill.

*Friday, Dec.* 12.

On the question for the second reading of the Bill for continuing the suspensionof the *Habeas Corpus Act*, the House divided.

For the motion 56. Against it 12.

Leave was granted to bring in a Bill to continue the Alien Act for a limited time, (which was about to expire.)

Leave was granted to bring in a Bill to continue the act "for better preventing the seducing of soldiers and sailors from their duty."—Adjourned.

# Monthly Register for December 1800.

## *Interesting Intelligence from the London Gazette.*

*Admiralty-Office, Nov.* 25.

*Copy of a Letter from Mr Thomas Alti, Commander of the Hawke Private Ship of War, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Vienna, in Portugal, the 22d of October* 1800.

SIR,

YOU will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty I yesterday afternoon fell in with and captured the Spanish Latine privateer called the Atalante, of Ponte Vedra, Capt. Don Bernardo Lopes, of 10 guns and 56 men, having come out of the port of Arosa the day before, and was just on the point of capturing a British vessel when I fell in with her. In running from me she threw 6 of her guns overboard; the four I found on board were long fives and nines. I brought her in here, and delivered the 56 men to his Britannic Majesty's Consul.

I am, &c, *Thomas Alti.*

SURRENDER OF CURACAO.

*Admiralty Office, Nov.* 29.

*Copy of a Letter from Capt. Frederick Watkins, Commander of his Majesty's ship Nereide, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated at Curacao, 15th October,* 1800.

SIR,

Be pleased to inform my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I have thought it indispensably necessary to send these dispatches to England by my first officer, Lieut. Paul, to acquaint their Lordships of the surrender of the valuable island of Curacao to his Majesty's frigate under my command. I beg leave to transmit duplicates of all my letters to the Right Hon. Lord Hugh Seymour, and the articles of capitulation agreed between his Excellency Johan Rudolph Lauffer and myself; as also inventories of warlike stores, shipping, &c. I hope their Lordships will sanction my conduct in taking possession of this central and valuable island in his Majesty's name.

Lieut-

Lieutenant Paul I cannot recommend in too ſtrong a language to your Lordſhips, for his zealous exertions during the whole of the ſiege: and for any further information he is perfectly able to deſcribe every thing their Lordſhips may be deſirous of knowing reſpecting Curacao. I have the honour to be, &c.

*Fred. Watkins.*

*His Majeſty's Ship Nereide, off Amſterdam, Iſland of Curacao, Sept.* 11, 1800.

My Lord,

I with not to loſe a moment in ſending a faſt ſailing veſſel to inform your Lordſhip, that the Iſland of Curacao has claimed the protection of his Britannic Majeſty. I have in conſequence, felt it my duty to take poſſeſſion of it in his name.

I am now running for the harbour, as it is abſolutely neceſſary to loſe no time to ſave the iſland from the enemy, who threaten to ſtorm the principal Fort to-night; but I truſt the Nereide's aſſiſtance will be the means of fruſtrating the enemy's views, and ſaving a moſt valuable Colony for his Majeſty.

I compute the force of the French to be about 1500 now in poſſeſſion of the weſt part of the iſland, but no ſtrong poſt of any conſequence to prevent my holding the forts commanding Amſterdam, until I am honoured with an anſwer from your Lordſhip.

There is great property afloat belonging to the Spaniards.

Lieut. Paul will have the honour of delivering this diſpatch to your Lordſhip, of whoſe exertions and zeal for the ſervice I cannot ſpeak in too ſtrong terms.

I am, &c. *F. Watkins.*

*His Majeſty's Ship Nereide,*
My Lord, *off Amſterdam Sept.* 14.

Since ſending my laſt diſpatch of the 11th inſt. Governor Johan Rudolph Lauffer has finally ſurrendered the Iſland of Curacao and its dependencies to his Majeſty's arms.

Incloſed I have the honour of tranſmitting to your Lordſhip a copy of the Terms of Capitulation.

I have the honour, &c.

*Fred. Watkins.*

[The principal of theſe articles are, I. The Iſland of Curacao and its dependencies to be placed under the protection of his Britannic Majeſty, and peaceably and quietly ſubmit to the government of his ſaid Majeſty. II. All ſhips and veſſels of war in the harbour, and all artillery, warlike ſtores, ammunition, &c. found in the forts and public magazines, and all property of whatſoever nature it may be, belonging to the Batavian Republic, to be delivered up to his Britannic Majeſty. III. The inhabitants of the iſland and its dependencies to enjoy the ſame rights and privileges of his Majeſty's ſubjects in the Weſt Indies.]

*His Majeſty's Ship Nereide, Curacoa Harbour,* 23*d Sept.* 1800.

My Lord,

I have now the ſatisfaction to inform your Lordſhip that the Engliſh colours are flying in this iſland, and that I have entered this harbour in conſequence of the total evacuation of the French forces laſt night. I am now arranging affairs in ſuch a manner as to tranquilize the minds of the inhabitants, and reſtore perfect peace, in the name of his Majeſty, in this valuable iſland. I have been received with great faith, and will do my utmoſt in eſtabliſhing the ſecurity of the principal fortreſs till I receive your Lordſhip's anſwer for my further conduct. Incloſed I have the honour of tranſmitting to you an inventory of warlike ſtores, ammunition, &c. in the garriſon, except thoſe lately in poſſeſſion of the enemy, which I have not yet received the regular returns of, but have given the neceſſary orders. It was my intention to have ſent any farther diſpatch to your Lordſhip by the remaining Lieutenant, Mr James Hodgſon; but, as I do not exactly conceive myſelf in a perfect ſtate of ſafety, without having perfect poſſeſſion of the principal fortreſs which commands the town, I have appointed him, with a party of my own men, to that command; his zeal, bravery, and univerſal ſteady conduct in any ſervice he is ordered on, makes my mind perfectly eaſy in doing ſo; he has been of the utmoſt ſervice in a new erected battery in annoying the enemy, and indeed may be conſidered the principal cauſe of their retreat. Lieutenant Fitten, commanding the Active tender, I have much pleaſure in recommending to your Lordſhip's notice, from his activity and ſpirited conduct ſince he has joined me. From him, my Lord, you will receive material information as to

all

all ſituations of the iſland and its valuable harbour. I am, &c.

*F. Watkins.*

[Here follows a liſt of Ships found in the Harbour amounting to Forty-ſeven, alſo a liſt of Cannon, Stores, &c.]

*Downing-Street, Nov. 29.*

*Extract of a Letter from Mr Penroſe, his Majeſty's Chargeé d'Affaires at Florence, to Lord Grenville, dated Monte Verchi, near Florence, Oct. 16, 1800.*

It is with the greateſt ſatisfaction that I acquaint your Lordſhip, that the property of his Majeſty's ſubjects at Leghorn has been, as well as circumſtances would permit, prevented from falling into the hands of the enemy, under the protection of his Majeſty's ſhips of war ſtationed at that port, off which a frigate will ſtill remain, to prevent any veſſels from going in.

*Admiralty-Office, Dec. 2.*

*Extract of a letter from Sir Richard Strachan, Bart. to the Earl of St Vincent, K. B.*

My Lord, *Captain, at Sea, Nov. 18.*

Your Lordſhips will perceive in the narrative of my proceedings, that a convoy of the enemy had got through the Teignouſe Paſſage yeſterday, and that I was endeavouring to intercept them from the Morbihan, or paſſage along the coaſt. I had the mortification in the morning to perceive that the greater part had got into the Morbihan; and that the others at the entrance were only waiting the tide, protected by the batteries on each ſide, and a ſhip corvette of 20 guns, the Commodore of the convoy. By the ſkilful management of the Nile cutter, the firſt veſſel up, under the command of Lieut. Argles, the corvette was kept from the north ſhore; and ſoon after, upon the Magicienne getting near her, ſhe ran into Port Navale, where ſhe took the ground, and her people began to quit her, and her colours were ſtruck; the boats of the Magicienne, under Lieut. Skottowe, and Rodney, attempted to board, but the corvette fired upon them, having rehoiſted her colours, and making ſail, ran farther into the port: the Magicienne recalled her boats; but Lieut. Rodney gallantly took a merchant veſſel from under one of the batteries as he was returning. As ſoon as I could get the boats out I ſent them all to be under the orders of Capt. Ogilvy, with directions for them to be ſent under the orders of the ſenior officer of this ſhip, Lieut. Hennah, to deſtroy the corvette, having under his orders Lieut. Clyde of this ſhip, and Lieut. Clark of the Marlborough; and the boats were manned by the Captain and Marlborough's men. The enterprize was conducted with great ability by Lieut. Hennah, who, notwithſtanding a heavy fire from the ſhore on all ſides, bravely boarded the corvette, and having ſet fire to her, ſhe ſoon after blew up. He ſpeaks in high terms of commendation of thoſe under his orders; and I admire the ſpirit that pervaded all the officers and men employed upon this occaſion: no priſoners were taken; and the conduct of Capt. Ogilvy in the guidance and management of the Magicienne, by drawing the fire of the batteries from the boats, contributed to the ſervice being effected with very little loſs. I am, &c.

*R. J. Strachan.*

*A Liſt of Men Killed and Wounded in taking the Veſſels named below.*

One killed belonging to the Suwarrow.
Seven wounded belonging to the Captain.

*Liſt of Veſſels.*

A ſhip corvette; deſtroyed by the boats of the ſquadron.
A merchant ſhip; taken by the Magicienne's boat under Lieut. Rodney, and afterwards burnt.
A merchant veſſel taken by the Nile cutter, and afterwards burnt.

*From the London Gazette, Dec. 13.*

*Ancona, Oct. 27.*

His Majeſty's ſtores, and Engliſh ſhips and merchandiſe, at Leghorn, in value more than Half a Million ſterling, have been ſaved from the plunder of the enemy.

*From the London Gazette. Dec. 20.*

*Downing Street, Dec. 20.*

Diſpatches, of which the following are extracts and copies, have been received from William Wickham, Eſq. by the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

*Extract of a Letter from William Wickham Eſq. to the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, dated Head-quarters, Amſing, 30th Nov. 1800.*

On the 28th, after I had written my diſpatch from Eggenfenden, the head-quarters

quarters were removed to Maſſing on the Rodt. The head-quarters were laſt night at Neumark, and arrived here this day about 12 o'clock; the roads being ſtill in a moſt dreadful ſtate, a great part of the army is ſtill behind. On the Archduke's arrival here, he found the enemy in force on the heights immediately in front of the town. The Tete de Pont of Waſſerbourg was attacked yeſterday, and the enemy repulſed with ſome loſs, after having entered the abbatis in front of the work.

*Head Quarters, Haag, 2d Dec.* 1800.

My Lord,

I have the honour to ſend your Lordſhip the incloſed copy of a report I have this day received from his Serene Highneſs the Prince of Conde, containing an account of the attack which the enemy made yeſterday on a part of his Serene Highneſs's corps, commanded by the Duke of Enghien, in front of Roſenheim.

I have the honour to be, &c.

*William Wickham.*

*Account of the action at Roſenheim, on the 1ſt of December* 1800.

Our advanced poſts, on the left ſide of the Inn, were attacked this day at noon; their right had been abſolutely uncovered for three days paſt, and the enemy was already on the banks on that ſide of the river; the advanced poſts, commanded by the Duxe d' Enghien, were engaged upwards of four hours, diſputing the ground inch by inch; the whole corps was not aſſembled on the right ſide of the Inn, before five o'clock. A pretty ſtrong column of the enemy having marched out of the town, it was allowed to advance till within the proper diſtance, when the Prince of Conde ordered all the batteries to fire upon it at once; this fire, well directed and well ſuſtained, compelled the column to retreat into the town immediately. Lieut. Col. de Santige, of the engineers, protected by the fire of the artillery, broke down the bridge, but in ſuch a manner, as that it could promptly be reeſtabliſhed, if, as it is hoped, it ſhould be neceſſary.

Our loſs is very ſmall; that of the enemy muſt have been more conſiderable. An artillery man was wounded by the ſide of the Duke d' Angouleme. No officers are known as yet to have been wounded, except Mr de Vaſſe, Adjutant to the Duke d' Angouleme, and the Engineer de Caſtre.

*Head-Quarters, Haag, 2d Dec.* 1800.

My Lord,

The march of General Kienmayer towards the Iſer, and the direction which the whole army had firſt taken towards Landſhut, having drawn a conſiderable part of Gen. Moreau's force towards Aerding, the heights between Ampfing and Haag had been occupied by one ſingle diviſion under General Ney.

In the courſe of laſt night, however, General Moreau had reinforced his poſition with two more diviſions, and had taken the command of the whole himſelf.

Yeſterday at day-break the heights were attacked. After an obſtinate reſiſtance on the part of the enemy, they were carried in ſucceſſion as far as the hill on the ſide of Ramſau, where the troops were obliged to halt, from exceſſive fatigue, about ſix in the evening.

In the night General Moreau abandoned this place, and retired to his old poſition at Hohenlenden and Aerding.

The whole ground from Ampfing to Ramſou was particularly favourable to the enemy, and conſiſted in heights covered with thick woods, and interſected by deep marſhy vallies, where the Auſtrian cavalry could not poſſibly act.

The Auſtrians took eight hundred priſoners and two pieces of cannon—the cannon were taken with four others, by the huſſars of Vecſey, who diſtinguiſhed themſelves very much during the whole of the affair, throwing themſelves into the woods, in places where it was thought impoſſible for cavalry to have penetrated. The other four pieces of cannon were retaken by a charge of the enemy's grenadiers, there not having been time to ſend a ſufficient force to ſupport the huſſars.

The loſs of the Auſtrians is computed to be near fifteen hundred men in killed, wounded, and priſoners. Gen. Moreau is ſaid by the priſoners to have received a muſket ball through his cloak.

The Archduke was on horſeback twelve hours, and ſlept in a hovel on the heights.

I have the honour to be &c.

*W. Wickham.*

*(Here end the Gazettes.)*

## FRANCE.

PARIS, *Nov.* 25.

The French Government have opened the ſeſſion of the legiſlature, and laid before it a long paper on the ſtate of France. It enters into a view of the internal ſtate of the Republic, and ſtates upon the negociation, that if "we do not yet enjoy peace, we have to accuſe only that power which, unaffected by the diſaſters of the Continent, is anxious only to cement, with the blood of nations, its empire over the ſeas, and its monopoly in every part of the world." It then ſpeaks of Count Cobentzel being at Luneville, and praiſes his character; but ſays, that in order not to be amuſed by a vain pretence of negociation, the Republic will ſupport her propoſitions with the whole force of her armies.

Bonaparte exults in the failure of the negociation betwixt Kleber and the Ottoman cabinet. "The Genius of France has ſaved the Army of the Eaſt from the execution of a Convention, which would have put it in the chains of England." He alſo urges the Powers of the North to ſhake off what he is pleaſed to term the "Tyranny which oppreſſes their commerce and their ſeas." "All nations who underſtand their rights will rally round the principles of equality. The North will free itſelf from the tyranny which weighs upon its commerce and the ſeas: it will ſee that our intereſts are the intereſts of mankind. Ruſſia particularly will remember its dignity, and the old relations which united it with France: it knows that France is a neceſſary counterpoiſe in the maritime balance of the world."

Bonaparte propoſes a ſinking fund, for two purpoſes, "the progreſſive redemption of the national debt," and "a great inſtrument of credit;" but he acknowledges, "that notwithſtanding the revenues have been valued with the utmoſt poſſible preciſion, theſe revenues will not be ſufficient for the preſumed expenditure."

PARIS, *Dec.* 9.

We are aſſured that the conſular guard have received orders to hold themſelves in readineſs to march at a moment's notice for the army of Italy.

The baggage and horſes of the Chief Conſul, and the horſe chaſſeurs, whoſe departure we announced, will be at Dijon on the 3d inſt. (December 13.)

General Murat, whoſe departure we announced ſome days ago, is gone to take the command of the corps of obſervation at Genoa.

PARIS, *Dec.* 11.

A curious diſcovery has lately been announced here. It is ſaid that Louis XVI. was an author. A tranſlation of Walpole's "Hiſtorical Doubts, &c." is advertiſed to be publiſhed from the late King's own hand. It is confidently aſſerted by a writer in the Journal Des Debats, who ſigns M——n, that the ſame monarch tranſlated the five firſt volumes of Gibbon's Hiſtory, publiſhed under the name of his Private Secretary.—Le Cler des-ſept-chenes.

## SPAIN.

*Dec.* 11.

Letters from Spain, by the way of Bayone, dated on the 30th ult. confirm that the malady which has afflicted Andaluſia draws to an end.—There are no longer any but convaleſcents. Affairs have reſumed their ordinary courſe at Cadiz and Seville.

The Engliſh entertain ſo little doubt of their ſtrength, and mingle ſuch inſolence with their dominion, that they have proceeded to take, in the port of Naples, and under the batteries of the Caſtle of l'Æuf, a veſſel which the ſloop le Lion had taken in open ſea.

A journal announces that the French were on the 24th ult. at Viterto, and were marching againſt Rome in three columns, in order to prevent the Auſtrians and Neapolitans from making themſelves maſters of it.—Another journal informs us, that Counts Lewvaſckow and Magendorff, Ruſſian Generals, have been ſent by their ſovereign into the kingdom of Naples, to command the Ruſſians there, who are to be reinforced until they amount to 10,000 effective men.

Government has given orders to form a cordon of troops on the frontiers of Holland, in order to ſtop the exportation of grain, which, notwithſtanding expreſs prohibitions, ſtill continues on that coaſt.

The ravages of the plague have nearly, if not altogether ſubſided at Cadiz. The two following incidents are curious:—

When the malady was at its height, a drunken

a drunken man tumbled in the middle of the ſtreet, and fell aſleep. In the evening, one of the carts which were employed for collecting the miſerable victims of the peſtilence, in order to their being buried, paſſed that way; the drivers ſuppoſing him dead, threw him into the cart, and carried him to the burying ground, where they were preparing to bury him, when he came to himſelf, and thus eſcaped a death not leſs cruel than that which he was ſuppoſed to have ſuffered.

The other remarkable circumſtance mentioned in the Spaniſh letters is, that at Calmona, a ſmall town in Andaluſia, the diſorder manifeſted itſelf in an iſolated houſe, where two perſons died.—The inhabitants of the town perſuaded themſelves, that by burning the houſe and the two carcaſes they ſhould ſecure themſelves from the ſcourge. They actually carried their deſign into execution, and the malady entirely diſappeared.

## *GERMANY.*

VIENNA, *Nov.* 29.

His Imperial Majeſty, it is ſaid, has appointed the Archduke Charles Commander in Chief of all the Auſtrian troops with reſpect to Germany.

The recruiting in the country is carried on with the utmoſt activity: it extends from the age of 16 to 40, and a great number of men are daily brought in.

*Dec.* 2. The Rector of the Univerſity of Prague, with the principals of the colleges, and about 600 ſtudents, repaired to the palace of his Royal Highneſs the Archduke Charles, to be enrolled for ſervice in the Patriotic Legion.

*Anzing, Dec.* 3.

*Extract of a Letter from General Moreau, to the Miniſter of War.*

"I have the pleaſure of giving you an account, my dear General, of the moſt glorious action for the army which I command, and of the greateſt advantage to the Republic.

"The enemy commenced the attack upon Hohenlinden, at half paſt ſeven in the morning. All thoſe who were in the foreſts, comprifing about a league and a half, were killed, taken, or diſperſed.

"The battle appeared completely decided by three o'clock; but another corps coming from the Lower Inn attempted to penetrate by Burttrain Le Hohenlinden with the intention of making a diverſion upon the left.

"This was a general battle, as there was not a corps in the French Army which was not engaged, and the ſame with the Auſtrians.

"There was much ſnow during the battle.—We have taken 80 pieces of cannon, 200 caiſſons, 10,000 priſoners, a great number of officers, among whom are three Generals, The purſuit continued till night. Our loſs conſiſts in One thouſand men, killed, wounded, and miſſing—the loſs of the enemy is incalculable. All did their duty; I cannot pay any particular eulogies to one more than to another. Artillery, infantry, and cavalry, all deſerve praiſe. The officers of the Etat-Major particularly diſtinguiſhed themſelves.

Our army is elated with its ſucceſs, and hopes that it will contribute to accelerate a peace. *Moreau.*

## *ITALY.*

From Italy there is no news of importance, nor indeed from any other part of the Continent that has not already been noticed. The Britiſh property carried off from Leghorn has been conveyed to Palermo. A Ruſſian fleet, having on board between 3000 and 4000 troops, deſtined for Naples, is ſtated to have arrived at Corfu.

## *AMERICA.*

From the American papers we learn that the election of a Preſident had been poſtponed till the 15th of November. It is calculated that there will be a majority of 16 votes for Jefferſon. Cooper, of Manchefter, impriſoned for ſedition, has been ſet at liberty, and has been promoted by the Governor of Pennſylvania to the command of a regiment of militia.

One Fries, who had been convicted of treaſon againſt the Federal Government, had by the ſame governor been appointed a Brigadier-General of militia.

The yellow fever, it appears has entirely ſubſided at Baltimore.

## ARMY OF EGYPT.

*(From the Moniteur.)*

The following diſpatches have been brought from Egypt, by the General of Brigade

Brigade *Vial*, who left Cairo on the 3d of November, and Alexandria, the 12th of the ſame month, on board the Lody.

At the opening of the ſitting of the Council of ſtate, the 15th of December, the Conſul Cambaceres. who preſided, ſaid:

"Citizens, the firſt Conſul not being yet able to come to the ſitting, it will make no difference to you, if I make known the ſatisfactory news received this morning from the army of Egypt. This army is in a ſtate of force and plenty, which prevents our having fears for the fate of the great conqueſt which it is charged to defend.

"General Menou writes, under date the 3d November laſt, that he is at the head of from 18 to 20,000 French, and a great number of auxiliary troops, well armed and equipped; that the pay is regulated; that for ſix months he has had no enemy to combat, not even a ſingle interior trouble to repreſs; that the Grand Vizier, more than 100 leagues diſtant from him in the deſart, has with him but the weak remains of his army, and that he does not believe that his corps amount to more than 6000 men.

"A Turkiſh veſſel of 80 guns, and an Engliſh frigate, have been wrecked on the coaſt. The French have made themſelves maſters of their cannon."

MENOU, *General in Chief, to* BONAPARTE.

"*Cairo. 10th Brumaire, (Nov. 1.)*

"Citizen Conſul—You have, by your ſhining victories, given to France the ſplendour of which events, no more perhaps to be mentioned, were about to deprive her. Citizen Conſul, this army, with which you made the firſt conqueſt of Italy, with which you carried into the Eaſt the name and the glory of the French Republic—this army merits all your ſolicitude and all your intereſt.

"The Grand Vizier is at Joffa, where he has employed all the reſources of force and deſpotiſm to recruit an army that will no longer meaſure itſelf with the bayonets and artillery of Frenchmen; eight or nine thouſand men, who deſert, and are replaced inceſſantly, compoſe all his force. The Grand Vizier has repaired El-Ariſch with activity, but without ſkill. He has quarrelled with the Naplouſians and with Dgezzar Pacha. All the Arabs have declared war againſt him, and pillage his convoys. About 200 Engliſh are united with the troops of the Grand Vizier' and exerciſe them at the cannon. A Ruſſian Envoy is ſtill in the Ottoman Camp, but he is viewed with great jealouſy. The Grand Vizier has written me ſeveral letters, part low, part inſolent, to demand Peace from me. I have conſtantly anſwered him, that it is at Paris only that he ought to treat.

"The Captain Pacha cruizes between Damietta and Alexandria with 20 or 25 ſhips, of which about 10 or 12 are of the line.—He is himſelf on board a three-decker, named Selim. He is a ſworn enemy to the Grand Vizier. He cordially deteſts the Engliſh. He is named Houſſain; was a Mameluck, or a white ſlave originally; has been brought up by the Grand Seignior, whoſe entire confidence he poſſeſſes. He is poliſhed, humane, and tolerably intelligent. He ſends me often Flags of Truce, and is ardently deſirous of Peace. He feels ſenſibly that the poſition of the Porte is highly critical.

"I am labouring towards the complete organization of the country in regard to finances, the adminiſtration of juſtice, and of commerce.

"I eſtabliſh connections with all the ſurrounding Princes. The caravans arrive from all parts. I ſee my way in making Suez a grand depot of commerce.

"The corps of engineers, of roads and bridges, and the geographical engineers, ſerve with diſtinction. The firſt is employed in the levelling of Egypt, and on a general ſyſtem of irrigation. All along the walls of the city, which is repaired on every point, I am making a road 60 feet broad, to be planted on both ſides with trees.

"The army is in the daily receipt of its pay. It is perfectly clothed and fed. I am perfectly ſatisfied with its diſcipline, and cannot ſufficiently praiſe the conduct of a great part of the General Officers and Individuals. I have proſecuted, and ſtill continue to proſecute to extremity, all dilapidators. It is not an eaſy thing to do good—one makes enemies; but I do not regard that, when the thing ſucceeds and the public gains by it.

"The Arabs, whom I purſue, without ceaſing, by dromedaries, aſk every where for peace. Scheiks and princes who live fifty days journey from Egypt, ſeek for the friendſhip of the French.

"I permit

"I permit ſome individuals, uſeleſs to the colony, to ſay no worſe of them, to return to France.

"Health and Reſpect,

"*Ab. J. Menou.*"

## *ENGLAND.*

### LOSS OF THE DROMEDARY.

*Extract of a letter from Trinidad, dated Sept.* 28.

"You will poſſibly have ſeen by the papers our misfortune of ſhipwreck in coming to the relief of this iſland, ſuppoſed to be attacked by a force from Guadaloupe, on endeavouring to break through Abacas (one of the mouths of the Gulph of Paria.) His Majeſty's ſhip Dromedary was carried by the current into the midſt of the breakers on a deſert rock, and completely wrecked, at ten at night on the 10th of Auguſt. You will think it extraordinary that the patient obedience and fortitude of the ſoldiers of the 2d W. I. Regiment, contributed much to the ſaving of every ſoul on board, which was deſpaired of for many hours. Our eſcape was conſidered the moſt miraculous that ever occurred; Captain Taylor, his officers and ſeamen, behaved with a coolneſs and intrepidity unexampled in ſuch circumſtances. The ſhip continued beating to pieces among the rocks and breakers, againſt a coaſt which to attempt to gain by ſwimming would have been attended with deſtruction. She was at laſt driven in ſuch a ſituation, that her bowſprit approached a rock, which a man gained by ſwinging from a rope; ſeveral got to it by that means, till a ſpar was launched from the bow, by which the whole eſcaped from the wreck. There we were about five hundred, clinging to the ſide of a rock, ſurrounded by breakers, which no boat dare venture to approach; with not quite a hogſhead of water, every moment expecting the wreck to break up and go to ſea with the change of current, and leave us to periſh by a moſt deplorable fate. In this ſtate we remained fifteen hours, when, to our great joy and ſurprize, we diſcovered a flotilla diſpatched by Governor Keton to our relief, in which we embarked before night, by regaining the wreck, which ſtill ſtood our friend, as nothing could come near the rock we were on, to take us off; incredible to imagine, though there were ſeveral women and children, not a life was loſt; the children were tied on their parents backs with the officers ſaſhes. I cannot avoid mentioning a circumſtance of one of the ſeamen, who was tying his wife to him, and was on the point of committing himſelf to the waves, but by which I pointed out to him both muſt periſh, adding, that if he would leave his wife with me, and take the ſoldiers, I would give him leave to get a ſpar, by which he would ſave her life and every woman and child on board; he did ſo, and ſucceeded, and after leaving her in ſafety, returned to the wreck, and would not quit me till I got on ſhore. When the ſhip became full of water, and people were preparing to ſwim, however fruitleſs the attempt, ſeveral ſoldiers, expert ſwimmers, came and ſtood by their officers, declaring they would not leave them. Poor fellows! their good nature and fidelity would avail but little."—Lieut.-Colonel Carmichael was preſent at the whole of this miſerable ſcene, and acted with his wonted preſence of mind, and manly fortitude.

### POPULATION OF BRITAIN.

The outlines of the bill for aſcertaining the population of Great Britain (now before Parliament) are: The rector, vicar, curate, or other officiating miniſter, and the overſeers, in England; and the miniſter of the goſpel, and the ſchoolmaſter in every pariſh in Scotland, are to take an account of every family within the limits of ſuch pariſh, which they are to inſert in a ſchedule to be delivered to them from the clerk of the peace, by conſtables, &c.

Houſeholders, &c. are to anſwer ſuch queſtions as ſhall be propoſed to them by the rectors, &c. on pain of forfeiting a ſum of money on refuſal, at the diſcretion of the Juſtice before whom complaint ſhall be made.

Juſtices are to appoint times for the returns from extra parochial places to be delivered to them, and for the overſeers, &c. anſwering ſuch queſtions as may be demanded of them by ſuch Juſtices; who are alſo to examine them upon oath touching the truth of ſuch anſwers. Clerks of the peace, town-clerks, and Juſtices, are to tranſmit ſuch anſwers and returns as may be made to them, unto the clerk of the Parliaments, that they may be inſpected by the members of both Houſes. Town-clerks, and clerks of the peace, and all other officers,

are

are to be allowed a certain ſum for their trouble for each return.

Rectors, and all others, making falſe returns, &c. are to forfeit a ſum at the diſcretion of the Juſtice of the peace. The ſeveral fines and forfeitures, if not immediately paid, are to be levied by diſtreſs and ſale of the offenders goods.

The queſtions, form of the ſchedule, precept for England and Scotland, form of oath, indorſement, &c. are ſubjoined to the bill.

*Portſmouth—Nov.* 9.

We have this day been viſited with the moſt tremendous hurricane remembered for many years, and very great damage has been done to the ſhipping. The tranſport Incredible, of near 600 tons meaſurement, was driven on the Horſe-bank, and totally diſmaſted, and her bottom out in a few minutes. The crew, conſiſting of 32 ſailors, three women, and two children, miraculouſly eſcaped, after ſuffering the greateſt hardſhips for near three hours, by the good management of the Jane ſloop, Henry Haſkall Maſter, and the Tide Surveyor of the Cuſtoms four-oared boat, who went to aſſiſt when nothing elſe would venture out of the harbour, and getting the crew on board, bore away for this harbour.

His Majeſty's frigate Huſſar parted from her anchors, beat over the Bank of the Horſe, and is now upon the Woolſeners, near the place where the Impregnable was loſt; the mizen-maſt and all her ſails are blown away. A deep loaded merchant ſhip is alſo on the Woolſeners in a deplorable ſtate. The Diana, South Sea whaler, Lock maſter, homeward-bound, is on ſhore on Hamilton's Bank, and has no anchor. Many other ſhips have loſt their anchors, and ſome their maſts, and ſeveral ſhips having parted from their anchors, have run out to ſea.—Happily the weather is a little moderated this evening.

London, *Nov.* 9.

A moſt tremendous ſtorm of wind and rain came on yeſterday noon, which greatly alarmed the inhabitants of London and Weſtminſter; in St James's Park ſome of the trees were torn up by the roots; in the Strand, Somerſet Houſe felt its effects, part of the roof being taken off; in Liquor-pond-ſtreet the roof of Mr Price's houſe, and the public-houſe adjoining, were ſtripped; in Guildford-ſtreet, near the Foundling Hoſpital, part of the parapet of one of the houſes was forced away; in Gray's and Lincoln's Inn, the attic ſtories of the chambers were torn off; part of the coping of Chriſt Church, Newgate-ſtreet, was forced into the veſtry during divine ſervice.—Part of the roof of the Church in Lime ſtreet fell in, juſt as the congregation was about to depart. The windows in St Clement's Church were driven in, and the congregation took to their heels. A houſe on Holborn-hill was wholly unroofed. Half of a houſe at Kennington was blown down; and a great number much damaged. Conſiderable damage has been done to the craft on the river.

*Dec.* 1.

The following ſingular occurrence took place in Mary-le-bonne, on Tueſday laſt:—A Miſs C—— had for ſome time received the addreſſes of Sir —— M. a young Scotch Baronet of ſmall fortune, but with good expectations, and countenanced his hopes of ſucceſs; but a few weeks ſince, a provincial Knight, turned of fifty, with a good fortune, and warm from the civic chair, became enamoured of the lady, propoſed himſelf, was accepted, and Tueſday laſt was appointed for the ſolemnization of their nuptials; the day arrived, and the Knight, with becoming ardour, repaired to the church; the lady, nothing tardy, haſtened to meet him, but, as ſhe ſtepped into the carriage, her previous lover, the young Baronet, abruptly followed her, and preſenting two piſtols, with violent imprecations ſwore, that unleſs ſhe inſtantly vowed never to give her hand to his rival, he would firſt ſhoot her, and then himſelf: under the impreſſions of fear, ſhe conſented, when he left her, and ſhe returned into the houſe. In the confuſion which this ſcene occaſioned, the impatient and awaiting Knight was forgotten; the flame which burned in his boſom could not keep his fingers warm; and at length, exhauſted by cold and mortification, he left the church, to learn the occaſion of his diſappointment. Here the matter at preſent reſts, but we underſtand it is to become the ſubject of judicial enquiry.

The Court Gazette of Peterſburgh, of Nov. 10, contains the following order: "Whereas we have learned that the iſland

iſland of Malta, lately in poſſeſſion of the French, has been ſurrendered to the Engliſh troops; but as it is yet uncertain whether the agreement entered into on the 30th of December 1798, will be fulfilled, according to which this iſland, after its capture, is to be reſtored to the Order of St John of Jeruſalem, of which his Majeſty the Emperor of all the Ruſſias is Grand Maſter, his Imperial Majeſty being determined to defend his rights, has been pleaſed to command, that an embargo ſhall be laid on all Engliſh ſhips in the ports of his empire, till the above-mentioned ſhall be fulfilled."

Such is the pretext exhibited by Paul for declaring againſt this country at the head of a new league of the Northern Powers, which, ſome of the German papers ſtate, is actually ſigned.

The embargo was laid upon all Engliſh ſhips at Cronſtadt on the 5th, at Narva on the 6th, and at Riga on the 8th ult. There were 103 veſſels in the firſt of theſe harbours. Ruſſian ſoldiers have been put on board the ſhips, and the Engliſh ſailors taken out of them. They were at firſt lodged in barracks, but orders were afterwards ſent to convey them up the country, in companies of ten or twelve each. They are now diſtributed in upwards of 100 different towns.

Information of the ſteps taken by Ruſſia has been tranſmitted to Sweden, and a cabinet council held, at which the king aſſiſted in perſon. The idea of an armed neutrality has, it is rumoured, been definitely adopted by the four Northern Powers; and letters from Copenhagen report, that a convention has actually been ſigned.

At the Court at St James's, the 5th of November 1800, preſent, the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council, it was determined, that from the 1ſt day of January 1801, his Majeſty's Royal Style and Titles ſhall be, in Latin,

"Georgius Tertius Dei Gratia Bri-
"tanniarum Rex, Fidei Defenſor, et in
"Terra Eccleſiæ Anglicanæ et Hiber-
"nicæ Supremum Caput."

And in Engliſh, "George the Third "by the Grace of God of the United "Kingdom of Great Britain and Ire-"land King, Defender of the Faith, and "of the United Church of England and "Ireland on Earth the Supreme Head."

And that in all the Seals of Office, Stamps, Coins, or Inſtruments where his Majeſty's preſent arms are now uſed, the Enſigns Armorial of the United Kingdom ſhould in future be uſed. With reſpect to the Privy Council Seal, their Lordſhips are of opinion, That the Roſe ſhould be conjoined with the Thiſtle and Shamrock. In the Union Flag, the Croſs of St George will be conjoined with the Croſſes of St Andrew and St Patrick. The Maſter of his Majeſty's Mint ſhall prepare drafts of Gold and Silver Medals, commemorating the Union of Great Britain and Ireland.

On the 1ſt of January 1801, his Majeſty ſhall declare the Members of the Moſt Honourable Privy Council for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, a Lord Preſident, &c. and on the 1ſt of January the Union Flag ſhall be hoiſted on all the Forts and Garriſons in the United Kingdom, &c.

## *SCOTLAND.*

*Greenock, Dec.* 3.

Arrived here yeſterday, the American ſhip Fanny, Capt. Braine, from New York in 25 days, having on board a conſiderable quantity of Indian corn meal, for the Friendly Societies in Edinburgh; ſailed thence in company with the Recovery, Campbell, for this, which is hourly expected, and brings the pleaſing intelligence that the yellow fever had entirely ſubſided at Baltimore. The number of deaths, that have taken place at Baltimore of the late epidemic diſeaſe, from Auguſt 1ſt to October 31, is—adults 978, children 219.—Total 1197.

*Greenock, Dec.* 17.

Arrived, on Sunday, the American ſhip Draper, Taylor, from New York, in 29 days, having on board 5110 buſhels Indian corn, and 109 puncheons 161 barrels Indian corn meal, for the Friendly Societies in Edinburgh; and 100 barrels flour. Alſo the Lively, Robinſon, from Quebec, with 5191 buſhels wheat.

*Greenock, Dec.* 22.

The Recovery, Campbell, arrived from New York on Friday laſt, with Indian meal. Sailed thence on the 6th November. On the 10th, about 7 P. M. it came on a very ſudden ſquall accompanied by lightning, which ſtruck the veſſel: it took effect on the main-top-maſt head; and taking a direction towards the deck, ſet the main rigging on fire, which was with conſiderable difficulty extin-

extinguiſhed. The Captain and the whole of the crew were on deck at the time, and were all knocked down; one of the ſeamen was killed, and three wounded.

Same day, the Briſeis, Dunlivey, and on Saturday the Trio, Mariner, arrived alſo from New York. The latter has on board 13 hhds. Indian meal, and 318 barrels flour.

EDINBURGH, *Nov.* 10.

The grazings of the parks of Bellevue, near this city, containing between twelve and thirteen acres, were let for the enſuing year, at the high rent of one hundred and forty-two pounds ſterling, which is about eleven pounds the acre.

*Nov.* 15. The Right Hon. Iſlay Campbell, Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, was unanimouſly re-elected Lord Rector of the Univerſity of Glaſgow.

*Nov.* 18. There were 248 bolls of Lothian oat-meal in Edinburgh market, which ſold at 39s. 6d. 37s. 9d. per boll. Beſt, retail price, 2s. 5½d. per peck. Second, 2s. 5d.

*Nov.* 25. There were 275 bolls of Lothian oat-meal in Edinburgh market, which ſold at 42s. 41s. 40s. per boll. Beſt retail price, per peck, 2s. 7½d. Second, 2s. 7d. Third, 2s. 6d.

*Dec.* 2. There were 289 bolls Lothian oat-meal in Edinburgh market, which ſold at 43s. 42s. 40s. 6d. per boll. Beſt retail price per peck, 2s. 8½d. Second, 2s. 7½d. Third, 2s. 7d.

*Dec.* 3. A caſe of rather a novel nature was brought before the ſitting Magiſtrate in the Council Chamber. A perſon offering to inliſt in the marines, was diſcovered to be a woman, named Margaret Grant, who, it ſeems, had been in the practice of dreſſing herſelf in man's apparel, and had inliſted twice before, defrauding the parties of the inliſting money. After undergoing an examination, ſhe was remanded to the City Guard. She was dreſſed in a blue jacket and trowſers, wore her hair looſe, and had a round hat.

*Dec.* 9 The James and Mary of Blyth, Capt. Short, in her paſſage from London, in ballaſt, off Sitter-churches, fell in with a lugger privateer with ſome veſſels, her prizes, in company. The Frenchman ordered Capt. Short to ſtrike. He bravely anſwered by firing his guns, and made directly at the privateer to run her down. The enemy ſeeing his deſtruction muſt be the conſequence, called out that he had ſtruck, and the James and Mary avoided the blow; but for fear of treachery fired a broadſide at the privateer's rigging, which brought down her topmaſts. The Frenchman then ſheered off. The James and Mary then made up to one of the prizes, which ſhe retook. This veſſel proved to be the Lamb of Boſton, laden with wheat for Leith. Soon after one of his Majeſty's armed ſhips came up and took the Lamb under her own care, put the James and Mary's men on board their own veſſel, and then purſued the Frenchman and his other prizes. We have not yet heard the reſult. The Captain and crew of the James and Mary have deſervedly received the higheſt applauſe.

*Dec* 9. There were 312 bolls of Lothian oat-meal in Edinburgh Market, which ſold at 42s. 41s. 40s. per boll. Beſt retail price, per peck, 2s. 8d. Second, 2s. 7½d. Third, 2s. 7d.

*Dec.* 12. A bridge of Caſt Iron was put on board the ſhip Elliſon, at Hull, to be fixed acroſs a wide ferry over a river, near Kingſton in Jamaica. This expenſive work was entered at the Cuſtom-houſe for 1060l. the mere freight of it is 160l. and the expence of erection will be great; a manufacturer from Weſt Yorkſhire will neceſſarily go over there for the purpoſe. Its weight is 87 tons (the ſtrongeſt horſe can only drag two tons; ſo that its conveyance by land would require 43 horſes and 43 carts). The ſpan or rainbow ſweep of the arch is 80 feet. The caſt iron rails, to guard the foot paſſengers, will be placed at ſix inches diſtance, and of courſe amount to 320 in number. The pieces which cover the top of the bridge are 41, and are two feet broad. It is in imitation of the two bridges over Colebrook Dale, and Sunderland river.

*Dec.* 15. Yeſterday the following Proclamation, recommending frugality in the uſe of Bread, was read in the different churches of this city:—

*By the KING.*

## A PROCLAMATION.

*GEORGE R.*

WHEREAS an Addreſs has been preſented to us by our two Houſes of Parliament, requeſting us to iſſue our Royal Proclamation, recommending to all ſuch perſons as have the means of procuring

curing other articles of food, the greateſt *Economy* and *Frugality* in the uſe of every ſpecies of Grain; we having taken the ſaid addreſs into conſideration, and being perſuaded that the prevention of all unneceſſary conſumption of Corn will furniſh one of the ſureſt and moſt effectual means of alleviating the preſent preſſure, and of providing for the neceſſary demands of the year, have, therefore, in purſuance of the ſaid addreſs, and out of our tender concern for the welfare of our People, thought fit (with the advice of our Privy Council) to iſſue this our Royal Proclamation, moſt earneſtly exhorting and charging all thoſe of our loving ſubjects who have the means of procuring other articles of food than Corn, as they tender their own immediate intereſts, and feel for the wants of others, to practiſe the greateſt *Economy* and *Frugality* in the uſe of every ſpecies of grain; and we do, for this purpoſe, more particularly exhort and charge all Maſters of families to reduce the conſumption of Bread in their reſpective families, by at leaſt one-third of the quantity conſumed in ordinary times, and in no caſe to ſuffer the ſame to exceed one Quartern Loaf for each perſon in each week: to abſtain from the uſe of flour in paſtry, and moreover, carefully to reſtrict the uſe thereof in all other articles than bread. And do alſo, in like manner, exhort and charge all perſons who keep horſes, eſpecially horſes for pleaſure, as far as their reſpective circumſtances will admit, carefully to reſtrict the conſumption of Oats and other grain for the ſubſiſtence of the ſame. And we do further charge and command every Miniſter, in his reſpective pariſh church, or chapel, within the kingdom of Great Britain, to read, or cauſe to be read, our ſaid Proclamation, on the Lord's Day, for two ſucceſſive weeks after receiving the ſaid proclamation. Given at our Court at St James's, the 3d day of December, 1800, in the 41ſt year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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*Dec.* 16. There were 330 bolls of Lothian Oatmeal, 30 bolls of South country, in Edinburgh market, which ſold at 41s. Lothian 41s. 6d. 40s. 9d. 40s. per boll. Beſt retail price, per peck, 2s. 8d. Second, 2s. 7¼d. Third, 2s. 7d.

*Dec.* 19. A veſſel which arrived laſt night from Campbeltown, brings accounts that the Aurora, of that place, Dunlop, from Londonderry for Liverpool, with a valuable cargo of linen, tar, and proviſions, was unfortunately loſt in Machrahaniſh Bay, in Kintyre, on Thurſday evening laſt. The crew were with great difficulty ſaved.

*Dec.* 23. This day the price of Oatmeal ſell in Edinburgh market: there were 194 bolls of Lothian Oatmeal, which ſold at 42s. 41s. and 40s. per boll. Beſt retail price per peck, 2s. 7½d. Second, 2s. 6d¾. Third, 2s. 6d. There were 196 bolls Peaſe and Barley Meal, which ſold from 27s. to 28s. per boll.

The Mercury, Captain Miller, from New York, arrived in Kirkcaldy roads, the 24th current.

The late much reſpected Provoſt Pitcairn, of Dundee, has left 400l. to the public charities there, viz. 100l. to that moſt uſeful inſtitution the Infirmary;—100l. to the fund for poor widows, and 200l. of which the intereſt is to be diſtributed with the collections gathered at the Church doors, on New Year's day, annually.

The ſecond report from the Lords Committees, on the dearth of Proviſions, ſtates, that the crop of wheat of the laſt year was deficient by one-fourth of the average produce. They have the ſatisfaction, however, of being able to ſtate, that the crops of barley may, upon the whole, be conſidered as approaching nearer to an average crop, and the crop of oats as equal, on the whole, to an average; but it is neceſſary to ſtate, that in many parts of the kingdom theſe crops have alſo been much damaged by the rains; although in others they have been well harveſted, and the flour from the barley of the preſent year ſo harveſted, is ſtated to be of the fineſt quality ever remembered. The Committee have likewiſe the ſatisfaction to add, that the crops of peaſe are, in general, good; and that thoſe of potatoes, although inferior in produce, by the acre, to the crops of former years; and although the quality of that root is leſs nutritious, from its having ſprouted in conſequence of the rains ſucceeding the hot weather; yet, from the additional number of acres planted, the Lords Committees think themſelves juſtified in ſtating the whole quantity produced not to be much leſs than the uſual average; but they think it neceſſary to ſubjoin, that

that it has been found, from the above cauſe, that the potatoes of this year are more liable than uſual to ſpoil in the keeping. The Committee think it proper to make ſome obſervations relating to Scotland in particular, and are happy to obſerve, the grain which is principally deficient in England, is not that which is moſt neceſſary for the ſupport of the labouring claſſes in Scotland. The reſult of the information received, repreſents the Weſtern ſide as having had nearly an average crop of all ſorts of grain; but the Eaſtern ſide, from England to Edinburgh, has not produced more than two-thirds of the ordinary quantity of wheat, or more than three-fourths of oats and barley. From Edinburgh to Caithneſs inclusive, notwithſtanding the productiveneſs of that country this ſeaſon, the Committee cannot eſtimate the crops of wheat, oats, and barley, at more than two-thirds of an uſual produce, though the laſt-mentioned grain muſt be underſtood as rather more productive than oats, north from Dundee. Taking the whole of Scotland, the crops of hay and ſtraw muſt be conſidered as conſiderably defective.

*Extraordinary Duel.*

The Duke del Parco, the Spaniſh Miniſter at the Court of Peterſburgh, having been prevented from repairing to that capital, on account of the differences between the two Courts, has lately taken up his abode at Hanau. A Count Rabaſomi, formerly a Major in the ſervice of Ruſſia, relying on the obliging diſpoſition of the Duke, waited on him to borrow fifty louis. "They are at your ſervice," ſaid his Excellency, putting them into his hand. "Allow me to give you a bill for them." "By no means, my dear Sir, between men like you and me (allow me to ſay) ſuch mercantile precautions are unneceſſary." The Count preſſed it, and the Duke refuſed, till the Count grew enraged, aſſured his Excellency that he was not a man to receive alms, and inſiſted on ſatisfaction. The Duke obligingly aſſured him that he was extremely well diſpoſed; "but you muſt at leaſt allow," added he, "that the occaſion is ſingular." They toſſed up for the firſt fire, which fell to the lot of the Duke, who diſcharged his piſtol in the air. The Count deſired him to fire again, but the ſeconds at length interfered, and, with much difficulty, convinced him of the extravagance of his conduct, and prevailed on him *to pocket the fifty louis and the affront.*

A letter from Liverpool brings us the following account of the gallant defence of the Dick, Capt. Grahame:—

"On the 6th of October, Captain Grahame ſailed from hence in the Dick for Africa, mounting 20 guns four and ſix pounders, and 42 men and boys. On the 15th of October he fell in with the La Grand Decide, French privateer, mounting 22 guns on one deck, nine and twelve pounders and one hundred and ſeventy-ſix men. An action commenced a few minutes paſt one o'clock at noon, which was moſt gallantly defended on both ſides, within piſtol ſhot.

"About five o'clock the Dick's ſtanding and running rigging, bracings, and bowlines were cut to pieces; ſails all in rags, topmaſts gone, lower maſts crippled, and ſeveral ſhots betwixt wind and water. It was about this time that an unfortunate caniſter ſhot ſtruck poor Grahame and took away all the upper part of his ſkull; in this ſituation he was carried below. To revenge his death, which his brave crew anticipated, and for the honour of the Britiſh enſign, one of the brave tars nailed the Dick's colours to the ſtump of the mizen maſt, and they one and all were determined to fight the veſſel as long as ſhe would ſwim; and without dread or fear the Chief Mate and crew fought on till near eight o'clock, having at that time their noble Captain and ten men wounded, their ammunition expended, and every gun diſmounted, ſpars and rigging ſhot away three feet 30 inches water in the pump well, both pumps going, veſſel expected to go down, and the enemy upon their quarter, in the act of boarding, when Capt. Grahme adviſed them, to prevent every man from being put to the ſword, to ſtrike their colours. He delivered up the veſſel in the moſt courageous manner; and even had the preſence of mind to deſire the third mate to fling his rifle-piece, piſtols, ſword, &c. overboard, ſaying, no other man ſhould ever uſe them. He manfully walked overboard his own veſſel into the enemy's boat, refuſing aid or aſſiſtance, ſaying to his men—"My brave fellows, you have done your duty like Britons;" adding (meaning his own veſſel)—"Poor Dick, thou haſt done thy duty likewiſe, but obliged

obliged to ſtrike to ſuperior force.—I only wiſh thy guns had been heavier metal."

"The French firſt Lieutenant was killed; the enemy had alſo 27 killed and wounded, and ſeveral of her crew died after the action. She was much hurt in her maſts and hull, and ſeveral holes in the ſide, which they were obliged to plug with lead. On Grahme's arrival on board the La Grand Decide, he was allowed a cot in the Captain's cabin, who behaved to him like a brother. The French doctor attended him night and day, his own mate was always with him, and his crew allowed frequently to ſee him.

"He was inſenſible after the firſt twenty-four hours, and on the 21ſt of October, about three o'clock in the afternoon, he departed this life, univerſally reſpected by all who knew him."

*Account of the loſs of the Charles Baring, Weſt Indiaman, Capt. Aris.*

This veſſel ſailed from Port Royal, Jamaica, the 6th of September laſt, and on the 15th of October ſprung a leak.—The unremitting exertions of the Captain, crew, and paſſengers, kept her afloat until the 24th, all hands being conſtantly employed in pumping her till the 21ſt, on which day the pumps were choaked, from the quantity of coffee, cocoa, &c. on board. That event taking place, the Captain immediately had the fore-deck, near the pumps, ſcuttled; as alſo the fore-hatch-way; and all hands turned to bale her with large water caſks ſlung to tackles, by which means ſhe was kept afloat until the 24th, on which day, miſerable to relate, with nine feet water in her hold, ſhe foundered.

The miſery of the crew, previous to this awful moment, can be better underſtood than deſcribed.—No alternative left them but to apply for ſuccour to a boat, ſcarce able to contain twenty people, diſtant from land upwards of 1000 miles, and in a ſea running mountains high. Three days had the following paſſengers and ſhip's company, who had the good fortune to get into the boat, lived in it, with only a wine glaſs of water allotted to each per day, when they were fortunately picked up by the Harriot, of New York, Captain Gauguard, who, by the active exertions of his mate, Mr Vanderkamp, in a heavy ſea, got them all on board, viz.—Captain John Aris, General Le Grande, Madame Le Grande, Thomas Bennett, Eſq. of Jamaica, Capt. Fitzmaurice, Mrs Fitzmaurice, Madame Bauvois, two Miſs Bauvois, James Satty, ſecond mate, and 18 ſeamen, ſaved.

*Liſt of the Loſt.*

General Bauvois, Mr De Lafout, ſurgeon, Mr Murray, late Maſter of the Surprize, paſſengers; Mr Halloway, firſt mate, 12 ſeamen, and 12 invalid ſoldiers.

*Dec.* 30. There were 250 bolls of Lothian oatmeal in Edinburgh market, which ſold at 45s. 42s. 6d. and 42s. per boll. Beſt retail price, per peck, 2s. 9½d. Second 2s. 9½d. Third 2s. 7½d. There were alſo 93 bolls of peaſe and barley meal, in the market, which ſold from 28s. to 30s. per boll.

*Dec.* 30. Yeſterday came on before the High Court of Juſticiary the trial of Robert Broxup, accuſed of four different acts of theft. The jury returned their verdict this day, unanimouſly finding the priſoner *guilty* of the crimes libelled. He was ſentenced to be executed on the 11th February next, at the uſual place of execution at Edinburgh.

## BIRTHS.

*May* 9. 1800. At Bombay, the Lady of Colonel Kerr, a ſon.

At London, the lady of Thomas Orby Hunter, Eſq. a daughter.

At London, the Counteſs of Mansfield, a ſon.

The Lady of C. G. S. Monteith, Eſq. of Cloſeburn-Hall, Dumfries, a ſon.

*Nov.* 4. At Stirling, the Lady of Capt Fenwick, a daughter.

21. At Dalkeith Houſe, the Counteſs of Home, a ſon.

*Dec.* 6. Mrs William Boſwell, a ſon.

At his houſe in Walbeck ſtreet, London, the Lady of Thomas Blair, Eſq. a ſon.

10. At Guernſey, the Lady of Major Craigie Halkett of the 55th regiment, a ſon.

16. Mrs Robertſon, Friars, a daughter.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Scott, wife of Mr Thomas Scott, writer to the ſignet, a ſon.

17. Mrs Archibald Campbell of Clathick, a daughter.

19. Mrs Child, wife of Mr Child, Attorney, of Briſtol, of three fine Boys, who, with the mother, are likely to do well.

## MARRIAGES.

*June* 14. At Calcutta, J. Scott, Eſq. to Miſs Hunter of Glaſgow.

At Dindigul, Major F. Aſkill, 2d battalion 18th regt. of Native Infantry, to Miſs

Turin, daughter of Sir Robert Turin, Bart.

At London, Ebenezer Maitland, jun. Esq. of Clapham, to Miss Ellis, grand-daughter of the late William Fuller, Esq. of Lombard-street.

At St James' Church, Capt. Temple Hardy, of the R. Navy, to Miss Warre, of Belmont Lodge.

At Stock Dameral, William M'Donald, Esq. Surgeon in the R. Navy, to Miss Knight, daughter of Capt. Knight, of his Majesty's ship Montague

At Liverpool, Capt. Livingston, of the ship Princess Amelia, to Miss Mercer, daughter of the late Capt. Mercer.

*Nov.* 17. At Auchlyne, William Erskine Campbell, Esq. younger of Glenfalloch, to Miss Susanna Campbell, daughter of Chas. Campbell, Esq. of Lochdochart, of Perthshire.

—. At Franckfort on the Maine, Mr R. M'Keller, of London, to Miss Sabina Schultze, youngest daughter of Jean Chretien Schultze, Esq Banker there.

21. At Kirkwall, the Rev. Charles Alison, minister of St Andrews, to Miss Jean Stalker, third daughter of the late Rev. Mr Hugh Stalker, minister of Kirkwall.

24. At Ayr, Hugh Stevenson, Esq. Collector of the Customs, to Miss Marion Miller.

25. At Shrewsbury, John M. Wood, Esq. of Liverpool, to Miss Hariet Dana, daughter of the Rev. Edmund Dana, and niece to Lord Kinnaird and Sir William Pulteney, Bart.

26. At Beckford-house, Gloucestershire, M Constable Maxwell, Esq. of Everingham, Yorkshire, to Miss T. A. Wakeman.

27. At Inverness. Mr John Macdonald, of London, to Miss Lydia Falconar, youngest daughter of the late Major Falconar.

*Dec.* 2. At Paisley, Mr William Pinkerton, merchant, to Mrs Jean Auchincloss, daughter of Mr William Auchincloss, merchant.

—. The Rev. Mr Archibald Glen, minister of Parton, to Miss Parlane, only daughter of Mr James Parlane, Surgeon in Glasgow.

— Mr Robert Aitken, of Crofthead, to Miss Nancy Easton, daughter of the deceased Mr David Easton, merchant, Glasgow.

3. At Perth, the Rev. Mr John Stewart, minister of the Burgher Congregation at Pitcairn Green, to Miss Cecilia Gillespie, eldest daughter of the late Mr James Gillespie, merchant in Perth.

15. At Paisley, John Muir, Esq. of Peil Thornton, to Miss Thomson, daughter of the deceased Mr James Thomson, merchant Paisley.

—. At Greenock, Mr Thomas Alexander, shipmaster, to Miss Ritchie.

16. At Dalintober, Campbeltown, Mr Archibald Campbell, Carnbeg, Islay, to Miss Barbara Campbell, of that place.

*Dec.* 17. At Glasgow, Hugh Bogle, Esq. of Kingston, Jamaica, to Miss Agnes Bogle, daughter of the late Mr Michael Bogle, merchant in Glasgow.

20. At London, Matthew Higgins, Esq. of Upper Grosvenor-street, to Miss Baillie, eldest daughter of the late James Baillie, Esq. of Ealing Grove, and one of the Representatives in Parliament for Horsham.

At London, William M'Gillivray, of Montreal, Esq. to Miss Macdonald, of Devonshire, Portland-place

DEATHS.

*March* 9. In Upper Canada, Mr David Macrae, son of the late Mr William Macrae, merchant in Glasgow.

*May* 2. 1800. At Bombay, Mr Wm. Clover, Esq. Recorder of that Presidency.

8. At Bombay. Capt. William Relph, of the Company's Marine.

At sea, W. Cockell, Esq. late Sheriff of Madras.

*August* 11, 1800. In Tobago, Mr Walter Jones, late of Glasgow.

*Oct.* 6. In the Island of Grenada, in the 25th year of his age, Mr Robert Liddell.

*Oct.* At St Ann's Bay, Jamaica, Mr Geo. Gibson of Glasgow.

At St Thomas in the East, Jamaica, Dr Cameron, an old inhabitant.

At Charlestown, South Carolina, of the Yellow Fever, Mr Robert Urquhart, a native of Ross-shire.

In Pennsylvania, Mrs Rachel Paton, spouse to John Rose, Esq. of Rose Valley, Lycoming county.

Suddenly, in Dublin, Sir Robert Scott, Knight, M. D. an eminent physician.

At his seat of Curraghmore, in Ireland, the Right Hon. George de la Poer Beresford, Earl of Tyrone, Marquis of Waterford, &c.

At Armagh, Matthew Lord Rokeby.

At Ripley, Surry, Mrs Crowder, relict of Mr Thomas Crowder, who, in the act of praying with a clergyman by the bedside of her dying son, sunk down and expired immediately.

At Greenwich, Capt. John Lee, commander of his Majesty's ship Camel.

At Bath, the Rev. Dr Stuart.

At his house at Streatham, Mr Ross, aged 73.

Lately, in Devonshire, of an apoplectic fit while sitting in company with his wife and daughters, Colonel Harpur, of Gore-court, in Kent.

At Cirencester, Giles Daubeny, Esq. his death was occasioned by a fever taken in collecting benefactions for the poor.

Major-Gen. Lewis, Colonel of the Royal Garrison B t alion, and Lieut.-Governor of Carisbrooke Castle.

At

At Whitworth, near Rochdale, Dr Matthew Young, Biſhop of Clonfert, in Ireland.

At his houſe in Carey-ſtreet, Lincoln's-Inn, London, John Miller, Eſq.

At his houſe, in Surry-ſtreet, London, James Phyn, Eſq.

Lately, at Hampſtead, the Right Hon. Lady Mary Stuart, daughter of the late John Earl of Traquair.

On his way from Ireland, Capt. Pariſh of the Royal Reg. of Artillery.

At Lambeth, William Richardſon, Eſq. aged 86, many years in the ſervice of the Hon. Eaſt India Company.

At Workington, in the 66th year of her age, Mrs Eſther Stephenſon She was the daughter of the late Rev. Mr Martinſon, upwards of fifty years curate of Patterdale Chapel, well known by the name of the *Provident Prieſt*. This venerable clergyman never poſſeſſed a ſtipend of above twelve pounds per ann. but, by rigid parſimony, added to the greateſt induſtry, he not only brought up a large family, but died worth upwards of One Thouſand pounds!

Lately, Benjamin Robertſon, Eſq. Police Magiſtrate of Union-Hall, London. The deceaſed has left the bulk of his fortune, which is very conſiderable, except a few legacies to Botanical purpoſes, as a fund. His own garden, at Stockwell, contains exotics and other rare plants, to the value of upwards of 5000l.

At Saliſbury, on his way to Bath, Rear-Admiral John Stanhope.

At Aberdeen, Mr W. Copland, merchant, Aberdeen, in the 87th year of his age.

*Sept. laſt.* At Jamaica, Mr Adam Dickſon Dobie, Midſhipman, on board his Majeſty's ſhip Apollo.

14. At Newfoundland, Lieut.-Col. Geo. Urquhart, of the 66th regt. of foot.

22. At St Vincent, Mr William Armſtrong, ſon of the late Mr Thomas Armſtrong, merchant in Glaſgow.

*Nov.* 1. At Forglen, aged 83, George Gerard, Eſq. of Midſtrath.

17. At Perth, Janet Anderſon, relict of —— Melville, a ſpoon-maker, in the 104th year of her age. Within theſe twelve months ſhe danced with great glee at the marriage of one of her ſons.

—. At Port Glaſgow, Miſs Grace M'Kirby.

—. At Edenſide, Kelſo, James Blair, Eſq. of Edenſide.

21. At Hull, after a very ſhort illneſs, aged 35, Mr William Ritchie, ſpirit-merchant.

23. At Dundee, John Pitcairn, Eſq. merchant, and late Provoſt there, in the 70th year of his age.

At Charleſtown, South Carolina, of the yellow fever, Mr Robert Urquhart, a native of Roſeſhire.

*Nov.* 23. At Haddington, Mrs Anne Campbell, relict of Mr Simon Brown, Surgeon in the Royal Navy.

—. At Peterſburgh, William Glen, Eſq. many years ſenior Britiſh merchant there; whoſe virtues will long be remembered with reſpect by travellers.

24. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Potts, merchant.

—. Mr Thomas Falconer, jun. writer, Glaſgow.

—. At Cultoquhey, Perthſhire, Miſs Anne Robertſon, youngeſt daughter of the deceaſed Henry Robertſon, Eſq.

25. At Carliſle, Capt. Henry Watkins, of the 15th regt. of foot.

27. At Portſmouth, Lieut. William Macpherſon Rice, of the R. Navy.

—. At Meikleour Houſe, Miſs Cochrane Mercer, daughter of the late Col. William Mercer of Aldie.

28. At Montroſe, Alexander Gairdyne, Eſq.

—. At Ayton Law, Mr John Cockburn, Farmer.

29. At Daill, in Argyleſhire, Mrs Ann Campbell, widow of the late James Campbell, Eſq. of Craigniſh.

—. John Campbell, only ſon of John Campbell, tertius, clerk to the ſignet.

—. At his father's houſe, Mr John Semple, eldeſt ſon of John Semple, Eſq. Finnieſton.

30. At Clermiſton, Miſs Bathia Robinſon, daughter of George Robinſon of Clermiſton, Eſq. writer to the ſignet.

—. Mr John Thomſon, Ship-maſter in Leith, in the 79th year of his age.

*Dec.* 1. At Kinclaven, the Rev. Mr John Scott.

2. At Kirktown of Fraſerburgh, William Fraſer of Park, Eſq. in the 79th year of his age.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Colville, relict of Andrew Blackburn Colville, Eſq. late merchant in Glaſgow.

—. At Aberdeen, in the 69th year of his age, Capt. Arthur Gibbon.

3. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Richardſon, Procurator in the High Court of Admiralty, and Lieutenant in the 2d batt. 2d regt. R. E. V.

—. At Aberdeen, Capt. Arthur Gibbon.

—. At Glaſgow, Mr James Gray, manufacturer.

—. At London, in his 26th year, Sir Edward Hulſe, Bart.

4. At the advanced age of One Hundred years and Nine months, Terence Dugan, bleacher at Kevock Mill, a gentleman eminent for the integrity of his conduct, and uprightneſs in private life. He was borne to the church-yard by his own ſervants, and two

two of them witneſſed his interment who had been fifty years in his employ. He was the firſt invited to this country, about 70 years ago, by the Hon. Board of Truſtees, to improve the ſtate of bleaching linen.

*Dec.* 4. At Glaſgow, Mrs Anne Gordon, wife of Mr George H. King, merchant.

—. Miſs Aliſon Lothian, Siſter of Mr David Lothian, late writer in Edinburgh.

—. At Wigton, Matthew Campbell, Eſq. Agent for the Britiſh Linen Company at that place.

6. At Montroſe, the Rev. Mr Alexander Robertſon, miniſter of Coul.

—. At Ochtertyre, Sir William Murray, Bart.

7. At Edinburgh, Mr Ferguſſon Hunter, ſon of John Hunter, Eſq. writer to the ſignet.

8. At Currichill, Miſs Iſabella Newton, eldeſt daughter of John Newton, Eſq. of Currichill.

—. At Campbeltown, Mr John Campbell, ſen. merchant.

9. At his ſeat at Radley, Sir Geo. Bowyer, Bart. Admiral of the Blue. He loſt a leg in the famous battle of the 1ſt of June, 1794.

10. At Dundee, Mrs Elizabeth Mitchell, wife of Mr William Biſſet, merchant.

At Melroſe, John Martin, beadle of that ancient village, and famous for exhibiting the beauties of its venerable Abbey.

10. At St Andrews, Mungo Law, Eſq. of Pitillock.

11. At his houſe at Campbeltown, William Buchanan, Eſq. in the 85th year of his age.

12. At Forfar, James Wyllie, Eſq. Commiſſary of Brechin, and writer in Forfar.

—. At Leven Lodge, in the 75th year of her age, Mrs Wood, relict of the late John Wood, Eſq. and ſiſter of the late James Philp of Greenlaw, Eſq. Judge of the Admiralty of Scotland.

—. In Bryanton-ſtreet, Portman Square, London, aged ten months, the ſon of Brigadier-Gen. Romer.

*Dec.* 12. At Muſſelburgh, Lieut. P. Meikleham, of the Roſs Fencible Highlanders.

14. At Edinburgh, the infant ſon of James Paton, Eſq. Charlotte Square.

—. At Leith, Mrs Giles, widow of Mr John Giles, deceaſed, brewer in Leith.

—. At Paiſley, Mrs Biſsland, wife of Mr Thomas Biſsland, ſen. merchant.

—. At Greenock, Mr Alexander Moriſon, merchant,

—. At Lathallan, Miſs Lumſdaine of Innergellie.

—. At her houſe, Cupar Fife, Mrs Dalglieſh, Reliét of James Dalglieſh, late of Scotſcraig, Eſq. Advocate.

14. At Norwood, near Pinner, Mr Alex. Dudgeon, of the Strand, London.

15. At Leith, Mr Alexander Pew, blockmaker.

16. At Edinburgh, Miſs Margaret Watſon, youngeſt daughter of Samuel Watſon, olicitor at Law.

—. At her houſe, Aliſon Square, Mrs Margaret Finlayſon, relict of Mr George Brown, late farmer at Gorgie Park.

17. At Edinburgh, Mrs Margaret Dall, widow of Francis Erſkine, Eſq of Kirkbaddo

18. At Dunfermline, Mr James Wemyſs.

20. At St Andrews, Mrs Hadow, relict of Dr George Hadow, Profeſſor of Hebrew in that Univerſity.

22. At Harchope, George Gibbon, Eſq. of Brewlands.

23. Mr John Ferme, of Groat Hill.

25. At Glaſgow, Mr Robert Lang, gardener to the Univerſity.

27. At Edinburgh, in a very advanced age, the Rev. Hugh Blair, D. D. Profeſſor of Rhetoric and Belles Lettres in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, one of the miniſters of the High Church, and author of the elegant ſermons which have been ſo greatly admired.

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END OF VOLUME XVI.

*ERRATA.*

In the Poetry, p. 141. col. 1. line 40. for *oblivion* read *oblivious*. Id. col. 2. line 4. for *had* read *trod*. P. 393. col. 2. line 13. for *e'er* read *core*. P. 394. col. 1. line 49. for *blinkin* read *linkin*.

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